

Silence Knight, Silence Knight
Judy Shepard, cast of 'Will & Grace'
come out against Proposition 22.
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Time running out for MMOW
No financials, no platform, lots
of questions at board meeting.
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Champagne thrills
Connie Champagne
plays Judy Garland.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 49 • 9 December 1999

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 28 years

Lobel stepping down from NGLTF

by Katie Szymanski

She has nearly doubled the budget of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), and more than doubled the staff. She has increased attendance at the organization's annual Creating Change conference from 800 to 2,500 people. She has broadened NGLTF's platform to address racial, economic, and gender issues. And now, after four years at NGLTF and three years as its executive director, Kerry Lobel announced last Friday, December 3 that she will leave in April 2000 to broaden objectives of her own.



Kerry Lobel

Her resignation is one of happiness, according to Lobel, who says her goals have been fulfilled and that she is looking forward to new challenges. Lobel told the *Bay Area Reporter* on Monday, December 6 that she won't have "one second to think about" what she will do upon her departure, but that she first plans to travel, possibly to Peru.

"I'm looking for something that's a different kind of adventure," said Lobel.

NGLTF will immediately begin a national search process to replace Lobel, who became executive director in December 1996, after serving as deputy director since January 1995. In this case, said Lobel, a national search is preferable to hiring from within the task force.

"For one thing, the staff we have here are very excited about the jobs they currently hold," said Lobel. "At the time that I was hired, I'm not sure the organization could have weathered the transition of an outside person coming in. But I'm completely confident we can thrive during this transition, otherwise I wouldn't be leaving. This baby is my love."

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Brown, Ammiano square off in Tenderloin debate

by Cynthia Laird



Mayoral candidates Tom Ammiano and Willie Brown at the last debate Sunday, December 5, at the Tenderloin Community School

Mitulski slammed for 'arrogance' at Noe Valley shelter meeting

by Terry Beswick

When the Reverend Jim Mitulski met Sunday, December 5 with Noe Valley neighbors of Metropolitan Community Church-Golden Gate on Church Street, where he hopes to establish an emergency shelter for lesbian and gay youth before Christmas, he was in for a bit of a shock.

The openly gay interim pastor of the church's small, diverse congregation, and full-time pastor of the largely gay MCC-San Francisco in the Castro, hadn't expected a standing-room-only crowd. Nor did he expect the vitriolic level of neighborhood opposition to the project, he told the *Bay Area Reporter* after the meeting.

He also didn't seem to care, at least not until it became clear that his presentation at the meeting—which many attendees characterized as "arrogant"—could jeopardize over \$100,000 he has requested from the city to support the proposal, originally planned to open December 15.

"It is not the custom of our church to ask the neighborhood for permission on all our projects," Mitulski snapped at some 150 neighbors crammed into the church's tiny nave, which will be lined with cots if his controversial plan goes through. "We are not accountable to you for what we do in our church building."



Rev. Jim Mitulski faced angry questions at a meeting on his shelter proposal last Sunday.

church building."

"Then would you please take the word 'community' out of your title?" shouted one angry man in response.

One man who identified himself as Randy, a 23-year resident of nearby Valley Street, was also unhappy. "Right now, this feels like a big ball being greased up and slipped up our [collective] ass," he said. Mi-

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It was a rowdy beginning and an even rowdier ending at the eighth and last debate in the mayoral runoff in the Tenderloin, but both Mayor Willie Brown and challenger Tom Ammiano kept above the fray of their supporters and presented their ideas before about 300 people last Sunday, December 5.

San Francisco voters go to the polls this Tuesday, December 14 to vote for mayor and district attorney.

Ammiano, who's trailing Brown by 20 points according to a *San Francisco Chronicle* poll published Monday, December 6, made what some called his strongest pitch yet during closing remarks at the hourlong debate at the Tenderloin Community School. Brown kept hammering away at the leadership issue, asking audience members whom they would rather see lead the city and work with state and federal leaders, such as Governor Gray Davis and President Bill Clinton.

During his closing statement, Ammiano gave an impassioned talk. "There is a need and a feeling for change," he said. "It's not reflected in the editorials, it's not reflected in the polls, but we've captured a group of voters who are disenfranchised and lit them on fire. I look forward to carrying that torch."

"We are a city of one," Brown countered. "There is absolutely no room to divide ourselves into camps. The job of the mayor should be bringing people together, not bringing them apart. I hope my vision, my stewardship will be rewarded with one more four-year term."

After the debate, Brown and Ammiano supporters verbally clashed on the sidewalk outside the Turk Street school—at one point the Reverend Cecil Williams, a Brown supporter—had to be helped to his car after an ardent Ammiano supporter began yelling at him.

Prior to the League of Women Voters-sponsored forum, both sides had groups of supporters outside the school, waving placards and chanting. Brown supporters were also playing the drums.

"Tom voted down this building," read a pro-Brown sign.

"Where's Willie's Fast Pass," shouted an

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District Attorney: BILL FAZIO

FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS

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Investigation continues in Oakland gay deaths

by Ed Walsh

A close friend of one of the victims of what Oakland police say is a case of either double suicide or murder-suicide says she's convinced the couple met with foul play. Meanwhile, more people have stopped by the couple's home to leave flowers and one posted a sign claiming the men were victims of domestic violence.

"It doesn't add up," said Denise Lampkin, a friend of Francisco Esparaza-Noyola who was found dead with Robert John Lothammer in their Oakland home November 27. Lampkin told the *Bay Area Reporter* she believes Esparaza-Noyola was too trusting and likely brought someone home who killed him and Lothammer. She believes the murderer then staged the crime scene to look like a murder-suicide or double suicide.

Police say Esparaza-Noyola hanged himself but they still don't know how Lothammer died. Lothammer was found on a couch in the same room with Esparaza-Noyola and his face was swollen and had blood on it. This week for the first time, police said they now believe Lothammer had suffered "trauma" injuries. Last week, investigators said despite the appearance of Lothammer's face, they had no evidence of trauma. Prescription drugs were found in the room near the couple but police say they don't know if the medications played any role in the men's deaths. Oakland homicide Sergeant Brian Medeiros told the B.A.R. he expected it would be another two weeks before toxicology tests came back on the men. Medeiros wouldn't say whether there had been any past history of domestic violence between the couple. The Alameda County Coroner's office told the B.A.R. Lothammer's cause of death may not be known for another five weeks.

Esparaza-Noyola had adopted

several stray dogs and he and Lothammer had been caring for four adult dogs and five puppies at the time of their deaths. Lampkin said that because Esparaza-Noyola was a great animal lover, she doesn't think he would have killed himself and left the dogs alone in the house with no one to take care of them. "The dogs, Robert, his garden, his home, were his whole world, in that order," said Lampkin. "When one of his dogs had puppies, he worried worse than a mother going into labor."

Neighbor Donna Reynolds, who has been coordinating the adoptions of the dogs, told the B.A.R. just two dogs, one adult and a puppy have been adopted so far. She asks anyone interested in adopting the pets to call her at (510) 451-0303. Lampkin hopes to help with the adoption and plans to distribute flyers to get the word out among Esparaza-Noyola's friends.

Lampkin said that although Esparaza-Noyola, 39, loved Lothammer, 62, the men's relationship had evolved into a platonic one in recent years. Lothammer, she said, had no problem with Esparaza-Noyola going out and having a good time with his friends and meeting other people. Neighbors say Esparaza-Noyola first moved in with Lothammer five to seven years ago.

Lampkin fondly remembered Esparaza-Noyola as "The Diva." "He was gorgeous and had a gorgeous personality," said Lampkin. "He could walk in a bar and just command your attention."

"He had the body, personality, everything together," added another Esparaza-Noyola friend, Michael Morgan.

Lampkin met Esparaza-Noyola through Morgan several years ago and the three became fast friends, often going out together in a group. "We called ourselves the three amigos," said Lampkin adding that they became very close despite their ethnic and cul-

tural differences. Lampkin is African American and both Morgan and Esparaza-Noyola were immigrants, Morgan from Ireland, and Esparaza-Noyola from Mexico.

Lampkin hopes to organize a memorial for the couple. Meanwhile, a makeshift memorial continues outside of the couple's Richmond Boulevard home. More flowers have been left along the chain link fence that surrounds the front yard. The couple's next-door neighbor, Julia Harper, told the B.A.R. someone had put a sign on the fence that said "Two men died here of domestic violence." Someone had scribbled "Jesus is the answer" on the sign. By Monday night, December 6, the sign had already been taken down but several bouquets of flowers remained on the fence; some had dried out and one had what appeared to be a Christmas card attached to it that had curled up in the evening drizzle.

"I dreadfully miss both Bobby and Francisco," said Harper. "They were wonderful neighbors. If I were in trouble or needed anything, they would always be right there. It's so sad coming home and seeing the house empty."

Harper said Lothammer's twin brother has been overwhelmed by the tragedy and would likely hold a memorial service after Christmas. ▽

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Correction

Due to the confusing nature of library-issued announcements, it was incorrectly reported in the December 2 issue ["Library Commission disguises its cuts"] that the Mission branch of the San Francisco Public Library would lose one hour. Its Wednesday hours will remain the same. Additionally, the Portrero branch loses its second hour on Tuesday night, not Monday. We regret the errors. ▽



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Gay clubs air TV commercial for Brown

by Cynthia Laird

Members of two gay political clubs united Friday, December 3 to make history during the San Francisco mayoral campaign by unveiling a television commercial featuring an interracial gay couple discussing the race and supporting Mayor Willie Brown.

The 30-second commercial, which has started airing on local network affiliate and cable channels, was the product of a collaboration between the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club and Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic

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Esther Lee, left, and Alonzo Reese watch the gay pro-Brown ad.

Ammiano speaks to business group

by Katie Szymanski

Tackling the hard issues and confronting head-on the rhetoric that his opponent has tried to use against him, mayoral candidate Tom Ammiano spoke Tuesday, December 7 for more than an hour to a roomful of people at the business-oriented Commonwealth Club of San Francisco.

A former school board member and the current president of the city's Board of Supervisors, Ammiano has won the endorsements of a variety of groups, from the environmental organization the Sierra Club to the African American newspaper the Bay View, proving that building coalitions is "more than just lip service."

In a question and answer session, Ammiano outlined his platform, which includes attracting

high-tech businesses to San Francisco, requiring that live-work-lofts pay their share of the public school tax, improving public transportation (which he rides daily), and most importantly, increasing affordable housing and conducting an open, participatory government.

Ammiano and Mayor Willie Brown face each other in the runoff for San Francisco mayor this Tuesday, December 14.

In response to allegations that he is in favor of "crazy tax proposals," Ammiano pointed to Brown's tax increases in 1991 that created two separate income brackets when Brown was a member of the state Assembly. Ammiano stated that there was presently no need for such taxes, and that the only thing he supported was for corporations and developers to pay their fair share.

"We're top heavy," Ammiano



Tom Ammiano addressed the Commonwealth Club Tuesday.

said. "Like all communities, the business community is not monolithic. I'm for business, but I'm for balance. I'd like to see mom and pop stores get the support we gave to Bloomingdale's."

Emphasizing that his campaign is about several issues important to all city residents, Ammiano promised that the political process would be returned to the people.

"People are ready for change, and not just change for change's sake," said Ammiano, "but one that reflects the value system for which San Francisco is known." ▼

Gay leader backs Ammiano

by Cynthia Laird

Former San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Harry Britt this week told the Bay Area Reporter that there are many reasons the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community should support current board President Tom Ammiano in his bid to become mayor.

"The whole world is watching

this race," Britt said in an interview, "not because of Tom's views or issues, but because Tom is trying to take queer leadership to a new level."

Britt recalled the late Harvey Milk, whom he replaced on the Board of Supervisors in 1979 following Milk's assassination November 27, 1978. "Harvey's message to us was 'We want to move to the front of the line.' Tom's campaign gives us an unprecedented opportunity to do that."

Britt said he "cringes" when he hears Ammiano is not a leader. "He has challenged one of the most powerful people in San Francisco."

Britt added that Ammiano and Milk were shaped together in the same community. "Harvey understood and Tom understands. Queers must not simply try to gain the acceptance of the straight world, they need to find it in themselves to become leaders." ▼

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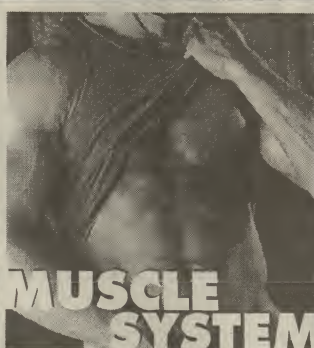
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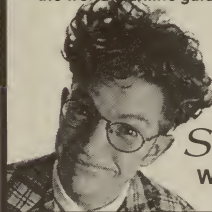
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DA candidates debate at cannabis club

by Katie Szymanski

Only in San Francisco would two district attorney candidates accuse each other of putting someone in jail for drugs or being too hard on young offenders. But the debate Tuesday, December 7 at the San Francisco Patients' Resource Center medical marijuana club on Divisadero Street was just that: a battle over who is more progressive. Both incumbent District Attorney Terence Hallinan and challenger Bill Fazio staked their claim on political views that they obviously both share; the challenge was proving that they have put their ideas into action.

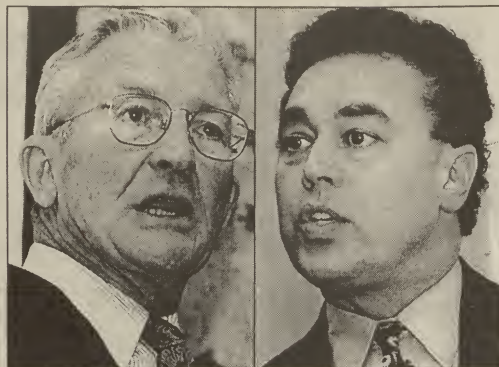
Hallinan was the clear winner on Tuesday night, in part perhaps because of the audience's slant toward him, but also because a few of Fazio's campaign tactics backfired. The candidates face each other in the runoff election this Tuesday, December 14.

Many in the audience remembered how Fazio invited the family of a crime victim to a recent debate so that they could criticize Hallinan for not contacting them about a case he was examining. The tables turned Tuesday when an audience member stood up and accused Fazio of making decisions that led to her son's death in prison. Fazio had apparently defended the young man for a charge of firearms possession.

"You never returned my calls," the woman sobbed, recalling her son's suicide in prison.

"You didn't pay me the entire amount," Fazio said, a comment that did not go over well with the crowd. "If your son was convicted, you should blame Mr. Hallinan."

Hallinan's office, however, dropped the original charges, and



Terence Hallinan faced off with Bill Fazio in a debate Tuesday night.

the son was re-charged by the federal government.

Most of the debate stayed focused on audience questions; discussions included the expected topics of medical marijuana and other drug policies, but issues such as immigration and the death penalty were also addressed.

On medical marijuana, Hallinan said that Proposition 215, "with a little creative imagination," was the vehicle by which people should be able to obtain the drug.

Fazio said that Proposition 215 was not written very well, and that other measures may need to be in place to guarantee that marijuana growers and sellers can be protected. But he also said earlier that he had "no intention of changing the law," leaving some to wonder why most of his answers focused on what was wrong with the law. Fazio also defended the police department - which supports him - for raiding the former Cannabis Buyers Club and shooting Dennis Peron many years ago.

"Police officers are just doing their duty, that is their job," said Fazio.

It was not the only time Fazio seemed to speak out of both sides of his mouth.

On certain issues, Fazio accused Hallinan of making too many convictions, but then turned around and said Hallinan's low conviction rate meant he was "the worse district attorney."

Hallinan countered, "Conviction rates are not the measure of success, public safety is." He pointed to programs where young offenders could go to school in exchange for having charges dropped.

"Every time this happens, it shows up as a 'loss' for me," said Hallinan, "but it is a win for the city."

In the hourlong debate, both men reaffirmed their opposition to the death penalty, immigration crackdowns, and the get-tough-on-kids initiative known as Proposition 21 on the March 2000 ballot. The latest polls show Fazio with a widening lead over Hallinan. ▼

Auction at CMPC hospitals under way

by Katie Szymanski

At a silent auction at the three campuses of California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC), there's an autographed book from Joan Rivers, "conductor's box" tickets for the San Francisco Symphony with Musical Director Michael Tilson Thomas, and actor Robin Williams's bottled wine intended for his cellar only. These celebrities and more have donated their items to benefit the Outpatient AIDS Case Management Program, a unique service at the Davies campus on Castro and Duboce streets that allows former hospital patients to remain functional in their own homes.

The Outpatient AIDS Case Management Program currently serves about 16 people, doing everything from keeping these patients on a proper medication schedule to assisting with their bookkeeping and shopping. While state funding pays for the basics of the program, "We are beginning to see an increase in need beyond what we are able to provide with basic funds," according to Laila Hinkle, the program's social worker. "Patients who have done very well for two or three years are now becoming ill and developing intolerance or resistance to protease inhibitor drugs."



Laila Hinkle and Sam Crocker promote Davies silent auction.

HIV Volunteer Coordinator Sam Crocker organized a drive that raised \$5,000 for the program, but much more is needed.

"It's a really neat program," said Crocker, who credits Hinkle and Betty Zipkin, the program's nurse, with its success. "These women have been involved with the AIDS epidemic since day one."

So that people with AIDS may maintain more control over their lives and not have to stay in the hospital, the program must cover the expenses of items not covered by the state, such as prescriptions not covered by Medicare or the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, attendant care, nutritional supplements, counseling, small refrigerators for medications, lodging for family visits, hygienic

products, bus tokens and taxi vouchers, even cremation costs and food for seeing-eye dogs.

All three campuses of CPMC - the California campus at 3700 California Street, the Pacific campus at 2333 Buchanan Street, and Davies - will be accepting bids for celebrity items in the silent auction through Friday, December 17.

As part of a separate fundraiser, gourmet Christmas baskets will also be raffled off at the hospitals through December 17; tickets are \$1 each, six for \$5, or 13 for \$10. Winners of both the raffle and auction will be announced that day. ▼

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Whose endorsement is it, anyway?

Some readers of LGBT newspapers may be unaware that endorsements made by those newspapers often are decided solely by the owners. At times, these endorsements do not reflect the views of the writers, editors, photographers and others who actually produce the paper week after week and whose job it is to stay in close touch with the LGBT community.

We are the men and women who work or have worked in the LGBT press. To counter owner endorsements that we believe are not in the best interest of the LGBT community, we are taking this unusual step of publicly endorsing Tom Ammiano for Mayor.

As citizens we care about our community. As journalists and others involved in the media, we are concerned by misleading and sometimes inaccurate statements in favor of the incumbent.

While we are happy to have two candidates who strongly support LGBT rights, this election is about more than traditional "gay rights" issues.

The City is at a crossroads. Small neighborhood businesses are being smothered by chain stores. Rents have skyrocketed in just four years and unfair evictions have become commonplace.

The annual city budget has soared from \$2.9 billion to \$4.2 billion in four years, while critical city needs go unmet. The tax dollars of San Franciscans are being sacrificed to political appointments and insider deal-making. Rapid over-development threatens to turn San Francisco into a place that caters only to the rich.

We have an historic opportunity. Tom Ammiano represents the San Francisco exemplified by Harvey Milk. Independent from special interests and political machines, Tom is a unifier who has always worked in cooperation with San Francisco's diverse communities to forge a more livable and affordable San Francisco.

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BAY AREA REPORTER

Volume 29, Number 49
9 December 1999**PUBLISHER**
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Brown's inclusionary politics

As the race for San Francisco mayor enters the final stretch before this Tuesday's runoff, we find ourselves growing increasingly frustrated with some in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community who see our endorsement of Mayor Willie Brown as being against electing a gay mayor, Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano.

In letters and some phone calls we have received, people are telling us the community should support Ammiano "because he's one of us." Gay and lesbian elected officials who support Brown are being called sellouts. We disagree.

Four years ago, when openly lesbian politician Roberta Achtenberg ran for mayor, the LGBT community for the most part backed Brown — including some of the very people who today are calling for us to support Ammiano. Four years ago, this paper endorsed former Mayor Frank Jordan, and we were criticized for not supporting Brown. This time, after four years of Brown's leadership — which has resulted in a robust economy, lower crime, and steadfast support for the LGBT community — we're being criticized for not supporting Ammiano.

But to Ammiano's credit, even he is not suggesting people vote for him because he is gay; he emphasizes people should vote for him based on his beliefs, and overall, we don't believe Ammiano's direction is best for San Francisco.

It is precisely because of Brown's leadership that elected gay and lesbian officials, like Assemblywoman Carole Migden, have become powerful and effective in state government. It is precisely because of Brown's leadership and belief in inclusion that he appointed two of the members on the Board of Supervisors from within the LGBT community. That Supervisors Leslie Katz and Mark Leno were elected on their own to the board following their appointments speaks to the fact that city residents — of all sexual orientations — support LGBT candidates. It is a sign of maturity for the LGBT community that we can support different candidates. There are times when we have to say we have to support one of us, but there's also a point at which we elect the candidate who is best for us and the city as

a whole. We believe Mayor Brown is that candidate in this mayoral election.

In a city that has three openly gay members on the Board of Supervisors — as well as gay and lesbian presidents of the community college and school boards — this community is well-represented in city politics. In fact, if the LGBT community wants to be concerned about political representation, it should be working harder to elect qualified bisexual and transgender candidates to office.

Part of the reason we have had success is because the gay and lesbian community is part of a coalition in local politics that tries to promote a diverse representation in local government. To say we need to elect one of our own works against that; if other communities had that belief, the coalition would fragment. We would be pitted against each other and the city would fracture.

Ammiano is working to build a coalition that's politically different, but we believe he needs to demonstrate that he can work with all of the city's diverse communities. That

he has trouble getting board support for many of his legislative proposals speaks to us about the need for improvement in this area.

And, while we have heard from many in the community who support Ammiano, we have also heard from many gays and lesbians who support Mayor Brown, and they are not all appointed city commissioners or members of the Alice Club. Castro merchants, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgender people have told us they support the mayor because he has done a good job running the city.

Morgan Gorrono of The Bar on Castro told us, "It's his leadership qualities. He knows ways to get money out of state and federal government. Tom's not experienced to run an international city the way the city has become and I think the mayor has done an excellent job."

Frederique Clermont, who identified herself as a black lesbian bisexual, also said she is voting for Brown. "He believes in a process that's inclusionary."

And to us, inclusion is the bottom line. Vote for Willie Brown. ▼



Editorial



Ammiano is a friend to PWAs

by Matt Sharp

One annoying thing I keep hearing in the mayoral campaign is that some people are reluctant to not support Tom Ammiano because Willie Brown has been such a "friend" to the AIDS community.

Surprising to me!

As someone who is very involved in AIDS, a person living with the disease, former AIDS Summit steering committee member, and former HIV Health Services Planning Council member, I cannot think of a worse friend to have as mayor for the concerns and issues of people with AIDS.

There are a number of unjustifiable and appalling situations that Brown has dirtied the water with in his years as mayor that people need to know about before they spout off political correctness in the name of good sound health care and policy for people with AIDS:

1. The Mayor's AIDS Summit was a Las Vegas showpiece. The steering committee for the summit was hand-picked by the mayor and never truly representative of people with AIDS. The majority of the work was done by select few unpaid volunteers who spent extra time off their jobs. As figurehead, Mayor Brown waltzed in and attended the day of the summit just so he would get media recognition. Today, where are the substantive initiatives put forth by the members of the steering committee? Other than a PR campaign for adherence and back to work issues, the summit came off as fluff with little substance and really didn't seek to address the real issues by and for people with AIDS in San Francisco.

2. Mayor Brown's attempt as dictator over a community planning process: The HIV Health Services Planning Council has worked hard over the years to include members of the HIV community in its planning and structure. The mayor's disregard of the council's bylaws and abysmal delay in selecting new members from approved council recommendations are nothing short of disgusting, and show his complete lack of respect for the democratic community planning process, laid down in legal bylaws by people with AIDS. Also, he also took it upon himself to "fire" several effective, and sometimes sick and ailing people with AIDS during their term of renewal on the council. The mayor's actions had direct negative impact on the service delivery and funding to all people with AIDS by interfering with a process set forth by the planning council.

3. Shady deals with the pharmaceutical industry: Mayor Brown thought he was doing a good thing in securing \$1 million from DuPont Pharmaceuticals, makers of the toxic antiviral drug, Sustiva. However, da Mayor sought no community input on what to do with such a treasure. He sought no information about the way DuPont lied about important safety information to scientific conferences and the HIV community, the overpricing of their shiny new drug, higher than its predecessors, nearly breaking the ADAP bank. Worse, he felt it necessary to take a million for a city prevention program in a study without one bit of advice from the affected community. Insider deals indeed!

4. The crumbling of the best AIDS care

facility in the United States: Mayor Brown has given marching orders to his Department of Health lackey, Mitch Katz, to continually shrink city dollars from the Positive Health Clinic at San Francisco General Hospital. While UCSF is losing money due to its own mismanagement, funding from the city cannot be disproportionately cut to the AIDS program, affecting the quality of care and services at the model of AIDS care in the country. That the bureaucracy of the Department of Public Health has swallowed the whole of the AIDS Office, which no longer exists, speaks of something far more omnipresent and looming: a medical disaster in the city with the best AIDS care for 12 years of this pandemic.

5. The Mayor's jester in waiting: The most frustrating ordeal has been dealing with an incompetent and untrustworthy AIDS liaison in the mayor's office whose ego and arrogance is matched only by his boss.

Mayor Brown has not been the "friend" some people argue because during his tenure as mayor, he has not appropriately sought community representation from people living with HIV. Tom Ammiano deserves the support of the HIV community. Like no other elected official before, Tom has championed the needs of people with AIDS at every possible moment. It is truly remarkable that Tom, a city official, has been so open and accessible to us. Every phone call is answered and every issue is professionally dealt with the utmost urgency and sensitivity. And, it is not just that his doors are always open, his actions are felt. ▼

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Supports Brown endorsement

Your editorial in the *Bay Area Reporter* [December 2] recommending Brown for mayor is a breath of fresh air and a voice of reason. Thanks for your courage. No doubt you will take a lot of heat.

Jerry Read
San Francisco

Correcting a misstatement

I want to correct a misstatement by Criss Romero, president of the Harvey Milk Club, regarding the use of his photo in a Brown for Mayor mailer in the 1995 election. ["*Ammiano the only candidate allowed to speak at Milk March*," December 2.] First of all, the mailer was not produced by the Alice B. Toklas Club—I produced it directly for the Brown for Mayor campaign.

Furthermore, Criss's photo was taken at a lesbian/gay reception for Willie Brown at the Brown for Mayor headquarters. I invited Criss, along with many others attending the reception, to pose for individual head-shot photographs for the clearly stated purpose of including them in whatever mailers or advertisements the Brown campaign might produce directed to the lesbian/gay community. He agreed to pose for the photo and we used it exactly as he understood we would.

Jim Rivaldo
San Francisco

Milk's legacy is very much alive

As someone who knew Harvey Milk from the very beginning of his time in San Francisco, I take issue with the Guest Opinion by James Bagi in the December 2 issue. I have never heard of James Bagi; it is unlikely that he ever knew Harvey Milk. So his bitter diatribe last week was apparently his own attempt at co-opting Harvey's memory.

It is unfortunate that the *Bay Area Reporter* chose to print something so full of inaccuracies and self-hatred. If Mr. Bagi doesn't like Supervisor Tom Ammiano or his politics, he should have found some other way to express himself without resorting to homophobic terms like "prancing". He claims he has no ax to grind, but that's exactly how his hit piece reads. Perhaps it's just that his ax is a bit dull.

To address the purported point of the article, if any one politician on the face of the earth both in politics and personality resembles Harvey Milk, it is Tom Ammiano. During Harvey's political life, he made coalitions with working people, communities of color, tenants, disabled people, seniors, and rank and file union members. Just as Tom does now. It is people like me, who worked with Harvey, that have commented on the similarities between the two men. But as someone who fought side-by-side with Harvey Milk in his battles against the anti-gay Briggs initiative and in local elections, Tom Ammiano certainly is qualified to speak on Harvey's politics.

If James Bagi is unfamiliar with Tom Ammiano's record, he's not paying attention to the websites, the newspaper articles, the television coverage, or the position papers. Tom is very much campaigning in the here and now.

Head down to his headquarters on 22nd and Mission if you want to see the connection Tom has made with the voters of San Francisco. His campaign has energized an electorate, including tremendous numbers of young people. Tom is very much a man of our times.

If Bagi needs a refresher course on what Harvey stood for, he can rent *The Times of Harvey Milk* documentary, read *The Mayor of Castro Street*, or talk to those of us who were around then. Harvey's legacy is something we won't let "rest in peace" until the work we started a few decades ago is done.

Dennis Seely
San Francisco

How quickly we forget

The last time we spoke to Congressman Phillip Burton before he died, he expressed his concern that some of his colleagues in the House of Representatives did not know who Hitler was.

Today, we are concerned that Criss Romero, president of the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, and its members do not know who Phillip Burton was. It was he, not George Moscone, who was the first straight politician to reach out to gays (as reported, *San Francisco Examiner*, November 28). We first met then-Assemblyman Phillip Burton in the 1950s. In 1962 he and his colleague, John O'Connell, met with the members of the Daughters of Bilitis and the Mattachine Society to discuss our problems and what had to be done before legislation to change sex laws could be introduced.

Willie Brown, John Burton, George Moscone, Dianne Feinstein, Dorothy von Béroldingen, John Shelley, Milton Marks, and a host of other elected officials in the 1960s and early 1970s all played important roles in helping lesbians and gays attain minority "status" and with it the political clout we had sought.

Unfortunately, at the 21st anniversary march and ceremony to honor the memory of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, Romero and

his club took exclusive ownership of the ceremony and turned it into a political rally for Tom Ammiano for mayor. They refused to acknowledge Mayor Willie Brown's presence. Would they have also refused Senator Dianne Feinstein had she been in the city?

We are sorry that Ammiano did not deter his overzealous supporters, remind them that the memorial is a city tradition, and explain that it was inappropriate to turn it into a campaign rally.

Common courtesy and historical protocol should have prevailed. We suggest that the Milk Club brush up on its manners and the history of San Francisco's LGBT community it presumes to represent.

Del Martin and Phyllis Martin
San Francisco

Ammiano's school board days

Tom Ammiano's much-trumpeted integrity was not in play when he was president of the San Francisco Board of Education, nor is it today when he offers the rationale for his actions. In 1993, he engineered the firing of Dr. Beverly Bradley, who was not only named the nation's 1992 Outstanding School Nurse of the Year, but had attracted \$10 million in grant money to the school district for health education programs. Ammiano's claim in an interview for the *San Francisco Chronicle* (November 13) that his disputes were "over her reluctance to distribute condoms in the schools and put out more detailed information on AIDS" is meant to imply that as a straight white woman she was reluctant to be specific about certain sexual practices. That is nonsense. Dr. Bradley was an advocate of free condom distribution in the schools long before she came to San Francisco. She spent the mid-1980s speaking to school boards all over California with that message, developing clearly understood educational materials and bringing the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt into classrooms to make her point.

Ammiano's reason for wanting Bradley fired was personal vindictiveness. When he worked for her in the district's health education office, she insisted he show up for work and sign in

and out like everyone else did. Apparently, Tom thought he was above all that and spent his time on the school district's payroll campaigning for a seat on the school board. After he was elected, he made a backroom deal with then-Superintendent Bill Rojas to fire her in exchange for backing Rojas's agenda. The city's medical community, AIDS health educators, teachers, and some of the nation's leading health professionals rose up to protest (*San Francisco Chronicle*, March 10, 1993; *Bay Area Reporter*, May 19, 1993). Chris Nunez, a lesbian Latina, who was on the advisory board that hired Dr. Bradley, was incensed. Board member and former board president JoAnne Miller resigned in disgust. But Ammiano would hear none of it. Today, thanks to Tom Ammiano, the San Francisco school district's health education program is a shadow of what it was under Dr. Bradley. Only the kids are poorer for it. But Ammiano offers no apologies for his actions, only the same lies he gave in 1993. And people think Willie Brown is arrogant.

Reverend James DeLange
San Francisco

Opposes Brown endorsement

Your editorial endorsing Brown for mayor (December 2) was laughable. Willie Brown has done virtually nothing to address the housing crisis. Just ask the thousands who have been evicted or priced out of this city. Where was his leadership when tenants were being owner move-in evicted so landlords could raise rents or convert buildings to tenancies in common? It took petition gathering for Proposition G to get him to act. Where was he on Presidio housing that has sat empty for four years despite Proposition L? Busy claiming that he, the man of untold influence, has no influence over the Presidio Trust. Where was he on the Ellis Act? Silent until two weeks before the runoff when he suddenly expressed concern for this new war against the poor. Where was he on rent control? He says he supports it, but proposes to put a moratorium on it while a \$175,000 commission studies it for a year. Studies what? Rent control is what keeps many of us from forced relocation to the East Bay.

Where was he on homelessness? Busy pushing legislation (via Amos Brown) to punish persons on the streets with arrest and the confiscation of their shopping carts. He promised not to continue Matrix, but has arrested more people for the "crime" of homelessness than former Mayor Jordan. And don't forget that he closed Mission Rock to make way for a stadium parking lot with no plan to replace its 600 beds.

This is a leader? A man whose administration is under an investigation by the FBI? A man who said he could fix Muni in 100 days, and who now says the homeless problem may be unsolvable?

Tom Ammiano is a leader with vision and integrity. He has been the president of the Board of Education, a supervisor and now serves as the president of

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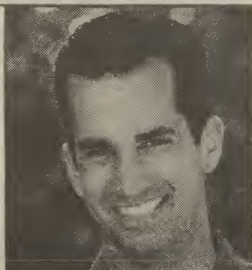
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Mailstrom

◀ previous page

the Board of Supervisors. He has stood up for tenants, for small business people, for neighborhoods, for the working class. He does not make backroom deals. You may not agree with everything he does, but Tom Ammiano rides Muni everyday and has already built a grassroots movement around him that is representative of the entire city.

Tommi Avicoli Mecca
San Francisco

Vote for honest Tom

I was born in the Castro District of San Francisco 67 years ago. I met my wife on Castro Street 43 years ago. We met Harvey Milk 25 years ago when he moved in near our home.

The Castro District was starting to run down when the gays started moving in during the late 1960s. They came from all over the United States and started renting, buying homes, and opening stores in the Castro. They improved the district so much that owners of the properties started jacking up rents.

Now, in 1999, a two-bedroom flat may rent for \$3,000 per month. A small store may rent for \$10,000 per month. The only ones that can afford to rent are the wealthy and the chain stores. Every day when I walk down Castro Street I see homeless, drug addicts, and drunks lying on the sidewalks. The same problems appear in almost every district in San Francisco. Our city also has a Muni system that can not get people from one place to another on time.

I feel that the homeless need homes and that children must be helped first. Mayor Brown has admitted that these problems continue to exist after his four years as mayor. He says, "Just give me four more years and I will clean up this mess." I say it is time to give an open gay - honest Tom Ammiano - our vote for mayor of San Francisco. He knows what must be done. I am sure we will see a dramatic change in our San Francisco districts in a very short time after we elect him our mayor.

If you are fed up with the way our city is being run, then get down to your polling place on December 14 and cast your vote for Tom Ammiano.

Allan Baird
San Francisco

Alice urges respect in mayor's race

A "screaming Ammiano" supporter confronts and berated the Reverend Cecil Williams after a mayoral debate in the Tenderloin. That same night, another Ammiano supporter threatens the Reverend Williams - if Tom Ammiano wins the mayor's race, he will take away funding to Glide Memorial as punishment for the strong support of Willie Brown.

We have witnessed John Caldera, a writer for *Spectrum* refer to Mayor Brown as "a jackal" whom Caldera predicts will be getting "black" in his campaigning. Both references are unnecessary racist phrasing that serves an injustice to the diversity of our community and the coalitions we have worked so far to build.

Let's all pause and consider the ramifications of heated emotions out of control during political campaigns.

The Reverend Williams has been one of our community's staunchest allies for decades. His inclusion of LGBT civil rights in his ministry has stirred the hearts of San Franciscans for many years. The city has provided funding for Glide Church to feed the city's homeless and care for our city's poor for decades. As a diverse LGBT community we have seen the destructive effects of scapegoating and stereotypes.

In these last few days of campaigning, we must remain respectful of each other's choices in this and all political races and encourage LGBT people to engage in the political process with respect - for ourselves and for the future battles we will be fighting together.

Alice has endorsed Brown because we believe in coalition building and his ability to lead this diverse city. We are working in unison with LGADDA (Lesbians & Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action) to hold a "Unity breakfast" this week to bring together leaders of the African American community and the LGBT community to strengthen the bonds between our communities and to show our pride in supporting Mayor Brown.

This is the type of organization we are - in the tradition set by founders such as Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin and Jim Foster - the type that will stand up in the face of accusations, threats, and untruths from detractors with opposing viewpoints.

We are not going to quietly watch this community pull itself apart over the ideology of the mayor's race. We encourage everyone to take a moment to think about what's really important, what your issues are and who you're going to support. Then get out there and work for that candidate in an appropriate and adult manner.

Esther Lee and Dean Goodwin, Co-Chairs
Alice B. Toklas Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club

Dysfunctional SF politics

What a puzzlement. This scenario of the notoriously dysfunctional San Francisco political arena, best described as an ongoing Greek tragic-comedy. So here we are. Ammiano versus Brown. On the one hand, we have Mr. Brown, "Da Mayor," the self-styled "king" of San Francisco, who has packed the Board of Supervisors by appointing six out of 11 supervisors. His "buds" are being investigated by the FBI. He has castigated the media when queried about Muni deficiencies. He denied any knowledge of the recent, aborted shopping cart sweep by the SFPD. If anyone believes Mr. Brown doesn't know everything that occurs in City Hall, they must be from another planet.

Now we have Tom Ammiano, president of the Board of Supervisors. He rides Muni, as did Harvey Milk. He knows "our" streets. Yes, perhaps he is the "queen" of San Francisco, as some do quip. Yet, he is not afraid to take on the banks (via the ATM initiative), corporate, and real estate interests.

As a 24-year resident of this city, a former nurse in the Castro, who knew Harvey Milk, who remembers a Muni that functioned better in 1976 before the strike that has since crippled its efficiency, and who is a veteran and HIV-positive, my hat is in the ring for Mr. Ammiano.

Robert Humphries
San Francisco

Cut foreskin, amputate breasts?

Regarding "Uncut men more likely to be HIV-positive" in the November 25 *B.A.R.* You have got to be joking. Cut off my foreskin to prevent AIDS? Never.

Instead of advocating unnecessary surgery, why isn't Daniel Halperin, Ph.D., promoting something logical and proven like using a condom? This guy obviously is circumcised himself and hasn't a clue about what the foreskin is all about. Would he suggest amputating all women's breasts to prevent cancer?

Gary Noguera
San Francisco

From a gay Aggie

I am certain by now that you have received [sic] at least a few letters regarding the column "School spir-its" [November 25] by Jim Provenzano.

I have only today received [sic] the web link, and late as it is, feel the need to write, as an 'out' gay Aggie - one who devoted three fall semesters to building Aggie Bonfire - expressing my disappointment.

Aside from being a bitter diatribe against religion, Mr. Provenzano's piece is filled with factual errors, proving that he knows little about Aggie Bonfire, and is merely using it as a convenient vehicle to attack religion. We do not "dance around" our Bonfire "in a pre-game frenzy," "Mini-George, Prez's illiterate cokehead [sic] son" is not an Aggie alumnus; and, there was no "media revisionism" on Texas A&M's symbolic burning of faggots - the outhouse placed atop Aggie Bonfire has never, ever been "the replacement object for the class homo ..."

Most GLBT Aggies readily admit that A&M is not a perfect place, but you would be hard put to find many who are as bitter about their experience here as Mr. Provenzano appears to be, despite the fact that he is not an Aggie. Is there too much of a religious atmosphere at A&M? For some GLBT (and hetero) Aggies, the answer is "yes." Do some of the traditions here pose difficulties for us? Again, the answer is "yes."

The fact is, however, that most GLBT Aggies celebrate the Aggie Spirit, and participate in Aggie traditions as fervently as most heterosexual Aggies do, have no desire to change those aspects of our college experience, and we have mourned our Bonfire tragedy [sic] as deeply as any.

GLBT Aggies participate in every aspect of Aggie life and traditions [sic], and we do so successfully. We are also actively engaged, as GLBT folk are in many places around this country, in changing attitudes and discriminatory practices, and we have had remarkable success in a relatively short time.

Faced, Monday, November 29, with a threatened appearance by Fred Phelps and his WBC ilk, the A&M community mobilized in unity - GLBT groups, campus ministers, student government, university administration - prepared to face this attack. To our good fortune, Phelps backed out at the last minute, but even a year ago, such a show of unity would have been unlikely, and the Aggie GLBT community would have had to face Phelps on our own.

Have we succeeded in every way? Of course not; one thing we don't need to complicate our efforts, however, are uneducated attacks from people like Mr. Provenzano [sic] - we have the Fred Phelps of the world for that, already.

And, one thing Mr. Provenzano [sic] should recognize is that while he issues his sanctimonious condemnations of our school from the safety of a great American gay ghetto, we GLBT Aggies, devoted to our university, have taken up the battle for GLBT rights in the heart of our oppressors' stronghold.

Eric W. Trekell, Chairman, Aggie Allies
Texas A&M University

POLITICS

John McCain – gay-friendly or a fraud?

by Wayne Friday

The board of directors of the national Log Cabin Republican Club recently met with presidential hopeful U.S. Senator **John McCain** (R-Arizona), the leading challenger to Texas Governor **George W. Bush**, the acknowledged favorite for the Republican presidential nomination next year, and, according to sources within the organization, came away from that meeting feeling that among the numerous GOP presidential candidates, McCain was "far and away" the most "gay-friendly" of the lot. As for what McCain promised the predominately gay and lesbian GOP organization – assuming that he promised them anything – or what he said to give them the idea he was friendly to their issues, that remains somewhat of a puzzle. No one within the Log Cabin Republicans or anyone supposedly speaking for them has said much about what McCain said to them to earn their support.

Perhaps the fact that he met with them was sufficient to win the respected gay and lesbian group to his side, because **Chris Bowman**, a well-known and widely respected local gay Republican operative, who's a former president of the San Francisco chapter, told the *Bay Area Reporter* this week that McCain is "far and away the favorite" of local chapter members now, though they haven't yet officially endorsed any Republican for the nomination. Bowman added that support for McCain at the state level of the Log Cabin Republicans was also very high. Bowman, a political consultant as well as a gay rights activist, told the B.A.R. that he understood McCain had told national board members during their meeting that he would have no problem appointing an openly gay or lesbian Republican to a position in a McCain administration.

During an appearance on NBC's *Meet the Press* last Sunday, however, McCain, when asked directly by the show's moderator if he would "knowingly appoint a gay or lesbian to his administration" responded by skirting the question with the answer that he would not "use a litmus test of any kind" when it came to presidential appointments.

Pressed further on the matter, McCain changed the subject by saying that he "has friends who are involved in this issue" (homosexuality) and mentioned that he endorsed three openly gay Republicans in his home state when they faced re-election, presumably meaning U.S. Representative **Jim Kolbe**, state Representative **Steve May**, and Tempe Mayor **Neil Guliano**.

McCain's public record in Washington has been one of consistently opposing anything that even smacked of being pro-gay. Even his new-found friends within the Log Cabin Republican Club would likely have to admit that he has voted against gay rights every time the issue came up. In 1993,

McCain spoke at a fundraiser for Oregon's anti-gay rights initiative, and he has consistently fought legislation barring job discrimination against homosexuals. Representative **Barney Frank** (D-Massachusetts) is one of those in Washington who is not fooled by McCain's sometimes gay-friendly remarks or his willingness to meet with groups like the Log Cabin Republicans, all the while using his vote in Congress to keep the homophobic Christian right happy. Frank, in an interview with the *New Republic*, said about McCain: "He's a thousand percent anti-gay; the only difference between him and other conservatives is that he bashes (gays) with his votes rather than his rhetoric."

While the three openly gay elected Republican officials in Arizona have endorsed the McCain presidential campaign, it is those gays and lesbians – closeted or otherwise – residing in New Hampshire that McCain will need in the first-in-the-nation primary February 1, since nearly all current polls have McCain in a statistical tie with Bush in that all-important primary election. That indicates the gay vote in New Hampshire, however big or small, could make the difference as to who wins that closely-watched contest among the six remaining GOP presidential hopefuls.

Why the Log Cabin Republicans or anyone else would have reason to think McCain is friendly to gay rights issues is a mystery. McCain, the Vietnam War hero, the man who admittedly takes independent stands on some issues like campaign finance reform and restrictions on tobacco sales, now suddenly becoming gay-friendly? I don't think so.

Compared to **Gary Bauer**, **Alan Keyes**, **Steve Forbes**, or **Pat Buchanan**, McCain might appear to be a moderate on gay-related issues, but this man is no friend of the gay and lesbian community, and that's demonstrated by his votes since he went to Congress in 1982.

Politics and people

Former Board of Supervisors President **Harry Britt**, who replaced the late **Harvey Milk** on the board and is considered a respected patriarch of San Francisco's gay community, this week endorsed **Bill Fazio** for district attorney in the December 14 runoff election.

More presidential politics: America's leading anti-AIDS crusader, actress **Elizabeth Taylor**, surprised many in Tinseltown recently by endorsing Steve Forbes for president; Taylor was a close friend of Forbes's late father, the reportedly bisexual **Malcolm Forbes**.

The Family Research Council's Gary Bauer is quickly becoming the leading anti-gay GOP presidential hopeful now that former Republican Pat Buchanan has bolted to the Reform Party.

A recent Associated Press poll said that nearly half of the 1,023 Americans asked said it won't much matter whether a Democrat or a Republican wins the White

House next year. The AP survey found that 24 percent favored a Democratic president; 21 percent a Republican. For Congress, 39 percent of those polled wanted it to be Democratic, while 33 percent said Republican. The top issue, according to the poll, was education followed by Social Security/Medicare, the economy, and the nation's moral values. Among the Republicans, Bush was favored by 50 percent; McCain followed at 12 percent. Among Democrats, **Al Gore** was favored over **Bill Bradley**, 43 percent to 32 percent.

From Sacramento comes word, not unexpectedly, that Assembly Speaker **Antonio Villaraigosa** will resign his leadership post in April to run for mayor of Los Angeles. Villaraigosa has tapped Sherman Oaks Democratic Assemblyman **Bob Hertzberg** to become the next speaker.

Incidentally, some of the support that Villaraigosa was counting on from the influential gay and lesbian community in Los Angeles is said to now be leaning to Los Angeles City Councilman **Joel Wachs**, another mayoral candidate who recently announced he's gay.

Also from the capitol, word is that the chill between Governor **Gray Davis** and his onetime boss, former governor and now Oakland Mayor **Jerry Brown**, has grown colder. It seems Davis, who was Brown's chief of staff, is none too pleased at Brown's somewhat frequent criticism of his administration.

Shasta County District Attorney **McGregor Scott** announced last week that he will seek the death penalty against brothers **Matthew and Tyler Williams**, who were charged in the murders of a gay couple, **Gary Matson** and **Winfield Mowder**, who were found dead in their Happy Valley home earlier this year. Federal charges are expected to be filed against the two brothers for the arson at three Sacramento synagogues and a building that houses an abortion clinic.

President **Donald Trump**? I don't think so. A *New York Times*/CBS News poll recently reported that 70 percent of Americans had an "unfavorable" opinion of The Donald, a record of sorts; he was even less popular than **Linda Tripp**.

California Republican Representative **Mary Bono**, once the stay-at-home mom and the wife of **Cher's** ex-husband, the late Congressman **Sonny Bono**, has logged over 50 appearances nationwide for GOP events and has suddenly become one of the most popular speakers, using her "star power" to raise funds for Republicans.

A report issued by the Center for the Study of the Gay and Lesbian Community to those who have cared enough to ask, my vote in the December 14 runoff goes to Mayor **Willie Brown**. I know **Tom Amiano** well, like the guy, and have always supported him in past school board and supervisory races, but Mayor Brown has consistently been there for us – for years – and I think he deserves another term.

Remember this Tuesday, December 14, is election day in San Francisco; vote as you please, but please vote. ▼

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What were Boston marriages?

by David Bianco

December 1879 (120 years ago this month): At a literary gathering in Boston, writer Sarah Orne Jewett meets Annie Adams Fields, her companion for the next 30 years.

In his novel *The Bostonians* (1886), Henry James modeled the relationship between his characters Olive and Verena on what he called "those friendships between women so common in New England." The "friendships" James observed were intimate, long-term relationships between two unmarried women, who were often feminists. Though dubbed "Boston marriages," these relationships occurred throughout the country.

With the growth of cities and an urban middle class in the mid-19th century, opportunities that had been previously unavailable to women began to emerge. As women's colleges were founded and previously all-male schools began to admit women, many middle- and upper-class women left their parents' homes, received an education, and embarked on careers. Many of these women also became politically motivated through the social movements of the time, including the fights for the abolition of slavery, temper-

ance, and women's suffrage. "New Women," as they were called, could for the first time choose to remain unmarried and pursue their own goals and interests.

Many of these women enjoyed circles of like-minded female friends. Within these networks, two women might pair off in a close relationship in which they shared housing, living expenses, vacations, and often a bed. These women were much more than "roommates;" they were soulmates and partners, married in spirit and mind. In *The Bostonians*, Olive "proposes" to Verena this way: "Will you be my friend, my friend of friends, beyond everyone, everything, forever and ever?" These intimate friendships were socially acceptable, and women in Boston marriages were often recognized as couples by their families, friends, and colleagues.

Some of the most accomplished and prominent women of that era lived in Boston marriages. Most often they were white, though there are also records of African American female couples. For example, Lucy Diggs Slowe, the first dean of women at Howard University, shared her life with writer Mary Powell Burrill, who had earlier been intimate friends with Harlem Renaissance poet Angelina Weld Grimké.

Many women in Boston mar-

riages were prominent in education, social work, women's rights, and the arts. M. Carey Thomas became the president of Bryn Mawr College when her wealthy philanthropist partner, Mary Elizabeth Garrett, offered the trustees of the school a hefty endowment to entice them to appoint Thomas. During her tenure, Thomas was responsible for turning Bryn Mawr from a finishing school into a college where "girls can learn, can reason, can compete with men in the grand fields of literature, science, and conjecture." Thomas and Garrett shared a home on campus for more than 20 years.

Jane Addams co-founded Chicago's Hull House, one of the country's first settlement houses, with Ellen Gates Starr, her intimate companion since college. When she and Starr grew apart, Addams began a 40-year relationship with another Hull House colleague, Mary Rozet Smith. Addams always brought Smith along on her lecture tours and was in the habit of wiring ahead to hotels to make sure they reserved a double bed.

Founder of the League of Women Voters, Carrie Chapman Catt outlived two husbands and then shared the latter part of her life with Mary Garrett Hay, a colleague from the suffrage movement. Hay's death in 1928 "shook Mrs. Catt to the soul," one friend recalled. When Catt died 19 years later, she was buried in the same cemetery plot as Hay under a joint tombstone that reads, "Here lie two, united in friendship for 38 years through constant service to a great cause."

Perhaps the best-known of all Boston marriages is the relationship of Sarah Orne Jewett and Annie Adams Fields. Jewett, a fiction writer from Maine, was a devoted feminist who early on rejected heterosexual marriage as destructive to a woman's identity and creativity. Her first novel, *Deephaven* (1877), depicted a romantic friendship between two young women who dreamed about living together like the Ladies of Llangollen, an 18th-century Welsh couple.

In December 1879, Jewett attended a literary reception in

Past Out

For further reading

Faderman, Lillian. *To Believe in Women: What Lesbians Have Done for America - A History* (Houghton Mifflin, 1999).

Surpassing the Love of Men: *Romantic Friendship and Love between Women from the Renaissance to the Present* (Morrow, 1981).

Smith-Rosenberg, Carroll. "The Female World of Love and Ritual: Relations between Women in Nineteenth-Century America," *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (Autumn 1975), pp. 1-29.

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- 4.** BILL FAZIO is committed to carrying out the voters' mandate to protect legitimate medical marijuana use and cultivation. Hallinan has failed to enact the clear policies already in effect in Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda and Marin counties.
- 5.** BILL FAZIO will restore funding for same-gender domestic violence prevention, counseling and prosecution. Hallinan cut these funds.
- 6.** BILL FAZIO will expand diversion and treatment for non-violent drug abusers and the mentally ill. For all his talk, Hallinan has not created a single new diversion program nor expanded diversion or treatment opportunities over his predecessor.
- 7.** BILL FAZIO will protect victims, witnesses and whistle-blowers from criminals. Hallinan has had too many cases dismissed because victims and witnesses feared for their safety.
- 8.** BILL FAZIO will restore competence, effectiveness, integrity and respect to the District Attorney's office. Hallinan has been "an embarrassment." (*Bay Area Reporter* editorial, 12/2/99).
- 9.** BILL FAZIO is endorsed by former Supervisor Harry Britt, the *Bay Area Reporter* and numerous gay and lesbian San Francisco police officers.
- 10.** BILL FAZIO is endorsed by Senator Dianne Feinstein, Public Defender Jeff Brown, Michael Shaw of the Pre-Trial Diversion Project and the National Women's Political Caucus, SF Chapter.

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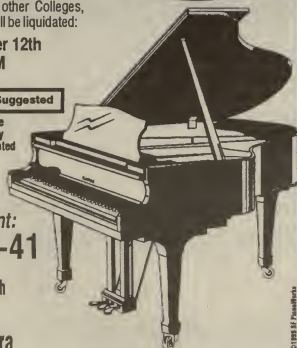
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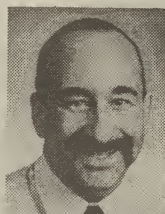
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A century of gay panic

by Nancy Boutilier

What will historians say about our century when they look back from the ivory towers of the next millennium? Will the recent protests in Seattle mark a turning point in activist response to the global culture of exploitation and market greed? I doubt it.

Will the retrospectives declare the rise and fall of the Village People as a watershed in re-defining identity politics? Will Audre Lorde be hailed as the most influential thinker of our time?

Probably not. But, let's be optimists.

If civilization really does progress, then perhaps when all is said and written in the history books, future scholars of 20th century American culture will look back at the politics of our time and recognize ours as the Century of Gay Panic.

While it's true that the judge in Laramie, Wyoming rejected gay panic as a legal defense in the courtroom during the trial of Matthew Shepard's killer, it's also true that gay panic remains too valid an explanation, and even an excuse, for violent and bigoted behavior.

In the Shepard case, gay panic as a defense was undermined by how mild mannered Matthew was reported to be, how physically unthreatening. He was outnumbered. Sexual advances, even if Matthew had extended any, could not have been sufficient enough to throw these two thugs into such a violent rage. Besides, the girlfriends of the killers had sto-

ries negating the gay panic defense. The killers had lured Matthew away, not the reverse. In short, the killing was not a response to homosexual advances, which does not, you may note, reject gay panic as an operating principle. It was not the principle operating in this case.

And just this week, six years after the murder of James Jordan took place, a tabloid is claiming that Michael Jordan's father was killed, not for the valuables that were stolen from him - including two NBA championship rings and his Lexus - but because Mr. Jordan made a "homosexual pass" at the killer.

In the recent report, a former investigator on the case claims that "The gay accusation had to be investigated, but we weren't able to turn up any real evidence to support it." Hmmm. Once again, there is little rejection of the gay panic principle, but a rejection that it applies in this case.

Gay panic reared its homophobic head earlier this year when a jury ordered television shock jock Jenny Jones to pay \$25,000 to the family of Scott Amedure. Jones invited Amedure on to her talk show to reveal his affections for his friend Jonathan Schmitz.

Schmitz, invited on to hear from a "secret admirer" was so outraged to discover that his admirer was another man that he returned to their hometown only to shoot and kill Amedure three days after the tell-all taping.

In punishing Jones, the jury all but agreed that one should expect a violent rampage when exposing one man to the advances of another.

Unfortunately, we live in an era when claims of gay panic still evoke sympathy. Gay panic remains an explanation and, if not a legal defense, a social one for unreasoned or unjust behavior. It is all too often accepted that a self-respecting straight man will respond violently against the suggestion that he is gay; it is as much a challenge to his manhood as someone taking a swing at him. Straight men, so the traditional bigoted wisdom goes, simply cannot leave unanswered someone's perception that they are sexually available to other men.

But surely it takes more than a few courtroom dramas at the end of the century to get an entire era declared the Century of Gay Panic.

Indeed, the 20th century American legislative landscape is marked by the theory that some people - and it seems far more a male phenomenon than a female one - can come so unglued in the face of a gay sexual advance (or

the suspicion of one) that they will lose their reason and act in extreme ways to ensure self-preservation. They will see the very existence of the "other" as such an intrusion, even an assault on their boundaries that self-defense will be understood as the motive for homophobic reaction. And in this county, self-defense, is generally an accepted defense.

Gay panic sets into motion the need to eliminate that which is homosexual as a means of preserving that which is heterosexual.

Sodomy laws, for instance, seem rooted in gay panic. If gay sex can happen, reasoned legislators, then it can happen to me. So, let's not allow it. If homosexual acts are outlawed, then only outlaws will commit them. Or, more to the point, if some queer comes on to me, I can have him arrested.

Likewise, the Defense of Marriage Act and its California cousin, the Knight initiative, are pieces of legislation that suggest an "advance" by the queers so threatening that it merits a defense of heterosexuality.

Gay panic also has fueled efforts to ban gay men and lesbians from military service. In the minds of policymakers, those close quarters allow proximity to be confused with proposition. So, arguments go, gays in the military cause dissension and low morale because there is the possibility that a gay soldier might hit on others. This is anticipatory gay panic. In looking at the actual conditions in the armed forces, one finds that it's not the straight soldiers getting hit on, but the gay men and lesbians in uniform being hit - both with discharges and with gay bashing.

In a rather protective version of gay panic, gay men and lesbians in education have been targeted throughout the century as a sexual threat to children. So we had the proposed Briggs amendment in 1978, a seek-out-and-destroy mission to ban lesbian and gay teachers in California.

It seems that our century accepts the notion that gay men and lesbians can be punished for what they might do. If we started banning straight men from jobs in which they might sexually harass women, then I suspect we'd see quite a change in the face of our workforce.

In prohibiting gay scouts and troop leaders, the Boy Scouts seem to be presuming that the mere presence of homosexuality is a threat. Of course, the Boy Scouts began as a way to counteract the perceived "feminization" of boys in this country brought on by their exposure to so many female teachers when the Industrial Revolution sent dads out to work at the factories. The Scouts

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"Mayor Brown has been able to bring diverse communities to the table. San Franciscans of all races, sexual orientations and economic backgrounds have all benefited because Willie Brown is able to tear down the barriers between people and build unity and consensus."

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"Saying all LGBT people should vote for Tom Ammiano is like saying all Asians should have voted for Matt Fong against Barbara Boxer last year. I'm supporting Willie Brown because he's the best advocate for our community and our city."

Esther Lee & Lisa Chun

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"One of Willie Brown's first acts as mayor was signing the landmark Equal Benefits legislation requiring all companies that contract with the City to provide equal benefits to domestic partners. He's always been there for our community – now we need to be there for him."

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Shorter and dozens of other LGBT policy-makers were appointed by Brown. Willie Brown has shown his commitment to our community and earned our support."

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"Many people don't remember that Willie Brown was one of the original supporters of gay rights. Willie Brown wrote and sponsored the Consenting Adults Act to decriminalize same-sex relationships, which passed in 1975. Willie Brown has been there for our community for over 30 years."

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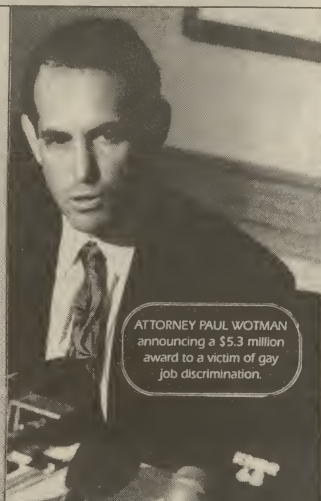
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Tweety defense

by Jane Warner
and Ron McGlashan

I 8th and Hartford streets, December 5, 5:45 a.m.: As a man walked down 18th Street, he heard footsteps behind him. As he turned to see who it was, three teenagers flanked him. One of the teenagers said, "We can play this the easy way or the hard way. Give me your wallet." The victim said no, and blew a whistle that he carried for safety. The three suspects backed off and the victim ran into a 7-Eleven store where he called police.

An area check by police located the three suspects standing by the pay phones fronting 4127 18th Street. Matthew Davis, 18, was booked for attempted robbery and possession of methamphetamine. The other two teenagers, ages 16 and 17, were released to their parents.

Multi-sacked

Vibrant Health, 2301 Market, November 30, 11:30 a.m.: A man entered the store and looked around. Other customers came in and the owner was momentarily distracted. When she looked up, the man was gone and so were two large vitamin bottles from the shelf. Quickly looking outside, the owner saw the man walking down Market Street, and along with a customer, caught up to him. The

owner retrieved the merchandise without incident and the customer called the police on his cell phone and followed the suspect southbound on Noe Street. The police caught the suspect near Dolores Park and found several other stolen goods in his possession belonging to other neighborhood stores. Booked for shoplifting was Steven Chester, 36. The goods were returned to their owners.

Spread 'em

Theatre complex at 1000 Van Ness Avenue, December 1, 3 p.m.: A male suspect approached a man standing at the bus stop at this location. The suspect brandished a 5 inch blade

and told the victim he was going to "pocket search" him. The suspect stole a small amount of cash and fled the area. There were no eyewitnesses.

Boom bust

The San Francisco Police and Fire departments have announced a zero-tolerance policy for unauthorized fireworks in the city and county of San Francisco. Any type of firecracker or pyrotechnic is considered illegal. To avoid arrest or citation, go to a licensed fireworks display. All steps will be taken to ensure public safety, especially as the millennium approaches. Any suspicious device larger than a cherry bomb will arouse the attention of specialized units of the SFPD and arson task force. Have fun on New Year's, but leave the big bangs at home. ▼

Dykeotomy

◀ page 14

would make men of boys.

And linked to these efforts to eliminate all evidence of homosexuality as a means of preserving heterosexuality are efforts to enforce strict gender boundaries. Whether it's the defense of masculinity or femininity, gay panic has more subtle responses than gay-bashing.

The hyper-feminizing of women who do seek out non-traditional roles — oh, like playing in the WNBA or fighting fires — seems to me a particularly insidious form of gay panic. We cannot have les-

bians in our midst, so we doll them up as best we can. We want our daughters playing soccer, but only if they can keep the ponytail and find a date for the Junior Prom.

Perhaps it is fitting that in these final days of the Century of Gay Panic, Tom Ammann will not be elected mayor of the gay mecca that San Francisco claims to be. Oh, there will be plenty who vote against him based on specific platform items. But plenty of votes for Willie Brown will be preventative measures sparked by the fear of a gay mayor.

The only thing that still amazes me is that Dan White never claimed that Harvey Milk hit on him. ▼

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Singing for the season



Birdie Bob Watt was one of many performers who took part in last week's "Songs of the Season" benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Organized by Donna Sachet, the annual holiday event featured entertainment by Sachet, the Lollipop Guild, Danny Williams, Gail Wilson, Charlie Pacheco, The Beara-tones, magician Walt Anthony, Emperor TJ Istvan, Empress Sheba, Brian Benamati, and others.

Marc Geller

Castro folks on the mayor's race

by Terry Beswick

Last Sunday afternoon, December 5, the *Bay Area Reporter* asked people strolling Market between Castro and Noe streets — midway between the neighborhood campaign offices of the two mayoral candidates — who they are supporting for mayor in the December 14 runoff: Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, or the incumbent, Mayor Willie Brown.

As expected, opinions were not unanimous among the respondents. A few were undecided, but most were committed one way or another.

With one or two exceptions, the mostly gay or lesbian shoppers said that the sexual orientation of the two candidates had little to do with their decision. Instead, for these folks at least, the issues put forward by the candidates seem to be: homelessness, rent control, development, Muni, honesty, and taxes.

Nick Martin, an openly gay man who voted for his first time in last month's general election, is a renter and recent property owner who has worked as a cook in the Castro for 20 years. He voted for Brown in the general election, and said he will again in the runoff.

"In four years I might support Tom Ammiano. But right now I don't like a lot of his tax stuff, and I don't like rent control," said Martin, 39. "There is that part of me that thinks it would be good to have an openly gay mayor. But I kind of go along with Whoopi Goldberg. I heard her quoted saying, 'Don't vote for color. Vote for the man.'"

Nicki Meinzer, 29, wrote in Ammiano last time around, and plans to vote for him again. Openly lesbian, she said she has followed the supervisor's political career closely, and supports him for mayor not just because he's gay, but for his positions on housing, Muni, and education. Still, the gay factor plays a part, she ac-

knowledges.

"Yeah, I'm happy that he's gay," Meinzer said. "He votes for me on the issues that are important to me as a gay person, so yeah, it's important."

Dan Bellm, a writer, acknowledges Brown's record on gay issues, but remains an Ammiano supporter. "I don't feel like the issue is Brown's record of support for gay rights," the 47-year-old said. "I don't think there's any question about that. But beyond that, so what?"

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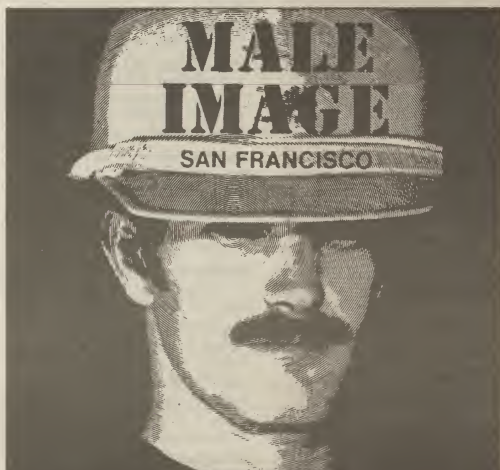
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Malcolm Lazin

Millennium March: The more things change...

by Bob Roehr

The board of directors of the Millennium March on Washington (MMOW) met in the nation's capital December 5-6. "The good and the bad news is that there are a little under 150 days" to the April 30 event, said Malcolm Lazin, co-executive director of the March. "What you see is an organization that is com-

mitted to getting there." But the ever-ticking clock has many observers questioning if that is possible.

"If one takes a look at where we were at our last board meeting [in October], which was almost nowhere, and takes a look today, it's a lot of progress," said Lazin. He pointed to having hired co-executive directors, finance and communications directors, and opening a D.C. of-

fice. Pharmaceutical companies Johnson & Johnson, Abbott Laboratories, and Serano "are joining the Wellness Pavilion and are committed to be marketing sponsors for us." United Airlines recently became a corporate sponsor with an in-kind contribution of \$70,000 in tickets.

But the board continues to refuse to release a financial statement, something that Donna Red Wing, treasurer and one of the

board's four co-chairs, had promised to do back in April. She said, "Because more events are being added, the board has to change the budget to reflect that new income and the allocation of that income to the community." It has promised to release the information when the MMOW files its IRS form 990 "after the end of the year."

A December 3 news release announced results of 40,000 "votes" on the platform for the event. But at the session Red Wing said, "Quite frankly we haven't gone through the scraps of paper." The release was based on 30,000 visits to the MMOW website and not on paper ballots distributed elsewhere. They plan to release the complete data once it is fully tabulated.

Wording on the "vision" or platform of the MMOW was deferred until the next board meeting, in February. A previously announced march route, from the Ellipse down onto the Mall, will now be reconsidered along with other options.

While the general tenor of the meeting was upbeat, there was a great sense that the group was flying by the seat of its pants, with few documents or briefing papers sent to them ahead of time, and a tendency to defer issues for later. But given that ever-ticking clock, the ability to defer is fast disappearing.

Mandy Carter speaks

The MMOW continues to be shadowed by the Ad Hoc Committee, activists opposed to MMOW's decision-making process. A dozen members of the committee dominated the public comment period on Sunday, December 5.

Mandy Carter, a longtime community organizer from North Carolina who has worked at the national level for several organizations including the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), issued one of the most personal and inflammatory challenges.

"There is a difference between the people of color on the board and the people of color constituency which you represent," she charged.

Carter rattled off the names of MMOW speakers announced so far, including Martina Navratilova, Ellen DeGeneres, Ann Heche, and Melissa Etheridge, all white women, many of whom have been spokespeople for HRC. "Where is the diversity?" she asked. "And why are we looking at celebrities before we even know what the platform is going to be?"

She said that HRC's 1998 endorsement of New York Senator Al D'Amato for re-election was "pivotal" in terms of the "guiding principles" behind the March. "What message does that send" to "queer, poor communities of color?" She said that HRC's "bottom line is about being gay." That was not enough for her.

Carter also criticized the list of issues circulated for the platform. "Other than immigration, there was nothing I could relate to," she said. "Are we about justice, or are we about just us?"

Other voices

"When we built other marches on Washington, we had a pur-

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SUSTIVA has manageable side effects. Most side effects are mild to moderate and can be managed. The most significant side effects associated with SUSTIVA therapy have been nervous system symptoms (dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating and/or abnormal dreams) and rash. These usually subside within the first two to four weeks of treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may help make nervous system symptoms less noticeable.

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Pregnancy should be avoided in women receiving SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in primates dosed with SUSTIVA. Barrier contraception should always be used in combination with other methods of contraception.

Talk to your doctor when you start taking SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Always tell your doctor if you are taking, starting or changing any prescription or non-prescription medicine when taking SUSTIVA. Your doctor may change your medicines or change their dose. You should discuss your prior medical conditions (such as mental illness, substance abuse, hepatitis, etc.) with your doctor before taking SUSTIVA.

We know that coping with HIV is difficult enough. Your treatment doesn't have to be. Ask your doctor about SUSTIVA. For more important information see the next page for Patient Information about SUSTIVA.

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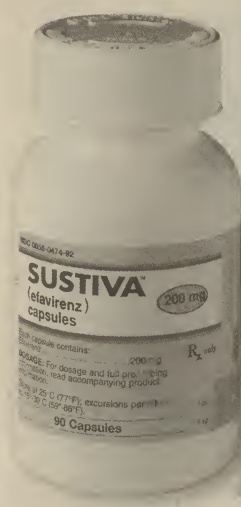
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1. Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents: Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), May 1999.

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Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA (efavirenz)
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA:**

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA:**

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

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DuPont Pharmaceuticals

Wilmington, DE 19880
Issued September, 1998

MMOW

page 18

pose, we had an agenda. We were here to stop the war, or express our outrage at government inaction over AIDS, said Nancy Wolforth, national co-chair of Pride at Work. "The agenda came as part of the process prior to calling a march. You don't call a march in a closed room and then say 18 months later, let's vote on what our priorities might be," as the MMOW has done.

Wolforth made the case that "there is a damned pressing need for us to be in our states and in our localities." She pointed to Tom Ammiano's mayoral campaign in San Francisco, which is broadly based "on issues of justice." Following that are the anti-gay Knight initiative (Proposition 22) in California and a ballot attempt to roll back gay rights in Miami. "We need money so that we can have the ground troops to get out the vote," not a march on Washington.

Judy Garin, executive director of the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom, explained, "There is tremendous violence and discrimination against the leather/fetish community. A speaker at the podium of the 1993 March was an important part of getting the psychological community to 'de-list' this fetishism as necessarily a mental condition.

The group has sought a similar commitment for a speaker on the program in 2000 but "did not get warm fuzzy, feelings of inclusion" from their contacts with the MMOW. Earlier this fall the coalition board voted to withdraw its endorsement of the March.

Howard Armistead, an AIDS

researcher from Los Angeles, had played a catalytic role in the 1993 March. He urged the board to "go back and look at the list" of 43 issues from that march. Another speaker said that very few came for the platform issues, he didn't even know that there was one when he came to D.C. in 1993.

Armistead declared that many people at earlier marches had met lovers, become activists, or be-

said, "I want to be involved in making the pie."

Jose Gavilanzo said, "We should not see the failure of this march as a community problem, it is a private affair built around the narrow agenda" of HRC and the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. He is affiliated with the Ad Hoc Committee.

"Gee, this is a painful thing,"

"You don't call a march in a closed room and then say 18 months later, let's vote on what our priorities might be."

— Nancy Wolforth, co-chair, Pride at Work

come personally empowered by those events. He wanted another "so that tens of thousands of people can have that experience of a lifetime."

Nicole Mason said that she had not seen many changes in attitude or positions from the MMOW since the process began in 1998. She didn't see the process being opened up to the community. "I don't want a piece of the pie," she

said New York activist Bill Dobbs. "I'm here to urge you to do the right thing and call this off. The way you at the table are using power is wrong." He criticized them for not opening the process or the books. He added, "There is no buzz up and down the East Coast. Our collective house is not in order." He brought an Astroturf doormat to represent the grassroots of the MMOW. ▼

Domestic partners now \$185 more equal at DMV

by Terry Beswick

The state bureaucracy has always made it easy for women to adopt their husband's last names when they get married. All they have to do is show their marriage certificate at their local California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), pay a \$15 fee, and their maiden name is history.

Of course, gay and lesbian people have had to jump through a few more hoops. Until recently, a "just domestically partnered" lesbian or gay man wanting to adopt their partner's name, or perhaps hyphenate it with their own, had to go to court and pay a \$200 fee.

No more. Beginning November 10, at the encouragement of San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno, the DMV now treats newlyweds and newly-partnereds alike.

Any local DMV presented with \$15 and domestic partnership papers from a city or state agency is now required to grant a name change request on identification that coincides with the name on the domestic partnership papers.

For qualifying partnered individuals anxious to express their devotion through nomenclature, the change will save them \$185.

"We just made one small move towards equality for lesbians and gay men who choose to be domestic partners," commented Leno. ▼



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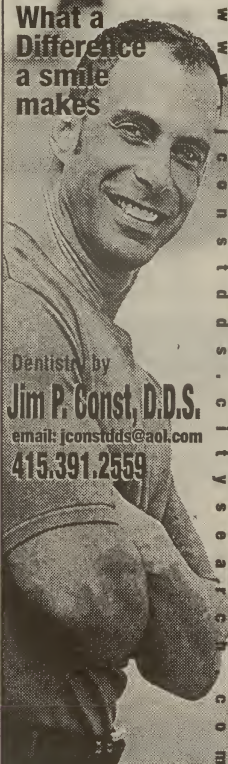
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Big No on Knight benefit planned

by Terry Beswick

With less than three months to go until the March 7, 2000 election – and just days before the San Francisco mayoral runoff – Mayor Willie Brown has announced a million dollar fundraiser set for January 27 in San Francisco to help defeat Proposition 22, which would ban future recognition of gay marriages in California.

If successful, some of the money raised at the benefit will help buy airtime to broadcast a new commercial from the cast of the hit television sitcom *Will & Grace*, in which they come out against the Knight initiative.

Journey to a Hate Free Millennium, a documentary on recent hate crimes produced under the auspices of New Light Media, will be premiered at the benefit. The film will examine three recent murders: a gay student Matthew Shepard, infamously slain last year in Wyoming; James Byrd, an African American dragged to his death in Texas; and the killings at Columbine High School in Colorado.

Campaign officials said they hoped to raise a modest \$500,000 at the event.

But at a news conference outside City Hall on Monday, December 6, Brown, who is co-hosting the benefit, said the city can do



Supervisor Mark Leno talked about the No on Knight benefit set for January 27 at a City Hall news conference Monday.

better. Flanked by several San Francisco supervisors and other officials, the mayor upped the goal to \$1 million. With all the elected officials in San Francisco opposing the measure, raising a million dollars should not be difficult, he said.

"San Francisco is a city that at all times has shown a great understanding of the need for tolerance," said Brown. "But some things will not be tolerated. The intrusion of hate is one example."

Judy Shepard, mother of Matthew Shepard, is expected to speak at the event following the showing of the film. On Monday, she issued a statement through the No on Knight campaign opposing the initiative:

"Anti-gay violence does not happen in a vacuum," said Supervisor Mark Leno, reading from Shepard's statement. "It happens in a climate of fear, ignorance, and intolerance – the very climate the Knight initiative fosters. If we want to stop hate crimes, we must stop these hate initiatives."

Leno, one of the co-hosts of the benefit, frequently draws a

connection between the Knight initiative and hate crimes. "In Colorado, something like 40 or 50 percent of hate crimes happened in the month before and after Amendment 2," Leno told the *Bay Area Reporter*, referring to that state's anti-gay ballot measure of several years ago.

The January 27 screening will be held at the Regency Building at 1290 Sutter Street. VIP tickets, which include a reception with hors d'oeuvres at 6 p.m., are \$500 - \$1,000, or \$10,000 for a table of 10. Tickets for the 8 p.m. screening are \$50 to \$100. Additional funding is expected to be raised through corporate sponsorships.

"If I could paraphrase a Christmas carol," quipped mayoral candidate and Supervisor Tom Ammann at the press conference. "Let's all sing out 'Silence Knight,' instead of 'Silent Night.'"

"As you know, there's a bit of a campaign going on in San Francisco," he added. "But it doesn't matter, because what's important is the unification we need to de-

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Boy Scouts reject pro-gay troop

by Lois Pearlman

Last Wednesday, December 1, Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey, (D-Petaluma), and her United Church of Christ (UCC) pastor held a news conference to denounce the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) for refusing to charter a church-sponsored troop headed by pro-gay scout leader Scott Cozza.

"The Boy Scouts of America's decision to deny the United Church of Christ's request to sponsor a troop flies in the face of the core values that scouting says it works to promote," Woolsey said in a prepared statement.

Cozza, who heads Scouting for All, a national organization dedicated to lifting the gay ban in scouting, first approached the Petaluma United Church of Christ in June with the idea of starting a troop that would focus on community service and outdoor exploration. Although Cozza is not a church member, he is a nearby neighbor and his two children have attended Bible classes at the church.

Cozza was bounced from the troop where he had served as an assistant scoutmaster after he and his son, Steven, attracted national

attention last year for their efforts to lift the gay ban. Troop officials said Cozza's activism interfered with his work as a scout leader. Steven, a 14-year-old high school student, left the troop along with his father.

In July the church began negotiating with the BSA to form the new troop, and in October the troop was denied.

"The church was not granted a charter at this point," said Scott Oldenburg, an executive with the Redwood Empire Council of the BSA. "It's because, in the past, he [Scott Cozza] has used his scouting position to advance a personal agenda. It's based on his past record of troop involvement," Oldenburg said in a telephone interview.

"I was outraged. It was an insult to the church," said Petaluma UCC pastor Lynda Burris at the press conference. "If the Boy Scouts don't believe us, a mainline denomination, when we say we're going to follow their rules, who can they believe?"

The accusation is ridiculous, agreed Cozza, who believes that the Boy Scouts are, themselves, promoting a personal agenda by denying membership to gay men and boys. He said the gay ban is only a

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Mitulski

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tsulski was not amused, and asked the man to stop talking, calling the comment "homophobic" after the meeting.

"It's not the kind of thing you expect someone to say, especially in a church building," Mitulski said.

But most others, including Mitulski, seemed to agree with Randy's underlying point.

"I walked into this meeting and saw a lot of anger. And I watched this man being very arrogant," a woman named Fran said of Mitulski. "I saw this man thinking, 'We're going to do whatever we want regardless of what these people think.'"

Not in my backyard, either!

Last Sunday's meeting was much better attended than an earlier one due to a flyer circulated by neighbors opposed to the project, and a mention in the neighborhood newspaper, the *Noe Valley Voice*.

Mitulski sent a letter to Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano on November 19, requesting his assistance in obtaining \$114,774 in city funds for the Noe Valley shelter, which would be open through May 15, 2000 for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQQ) homeless young adults.

Although Ammiano and fellow openly gay Supervisors Mark Leno and Leslie Katz have already set aside \$250,000 in this year's city budget for a queer youth shelter project that recently fell through in the Castro, Ammiano's aide Tomas Lee told the *B.A.R.* that the supervisors want to preserve the money for a long-term project — perhaps next year, once an appropriate facility is found.

Ammiano, who is running for mayor in the December 14 runoff election, did not attend Sunday's meeting, sending instead legislative aide Lee.

"When Jim originally approached the supervisor, he thought it was a good idea — on the condition that [Mitulski] worked with the neighbors," Lee said toward the end of the meeting. "This is not a fait accompli."

Ammiano is expected to introduce legislation for funding the Noe Valley temporary shelter within the next two weeks, once the neighborhood is better informed about MCC's plans.

Ad hits Ammiano as anti-Catholic

by Terry Beswick

A full-page ad in the December 7 issue of *The Independent*, a city-subsidized weekly newspaper, attacked San Francisco mayoral candidate Tom Ammiano, claiming that the openly gay president of the Board of Supervisors has "declared war" on the city's Catholic community.

A condensed version of the ad also was circulated as a flyer outside Catholic churches over the last two Sundays, according to Joe O'Donoghue, president of the Residential Builder's Association. O'Donoghue's group helped to produce the ad, which states that

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The long shadow of the EVRC

The Noe Valley shelter would be a collaboration with the Ark of Refuge, the nonprofit group that operated an equally controversial city-funded shelter in the Eureka Valley Recreation Center (EVRC) in the Castro last spring.

Earlier this year, the 10-week, city-funded EVRC project provided shelter to some 150 youth during the spring. The fallout from the project, which some residents felt brought increased crime and vagrancy to the neighborhood, ultimately helped to sink another proposed shelter in the Castro — at the old City Athletic Club gym at 2500 Market Street.

Last week, after four months of arduous negotiations, Castro res-

idents told Leno, who spearheaded the 2500 Market project, that they did not want an EVRC-like shelter in their neighborhood, preferring a smaller, "transitional housing" program. But even that proposal fell apart in the 11th hour when the building's owner, Tor Hansen, withdrew his offer to lease the building to the city — reportedly buckling to neighborhood pressure.

The MCC-Golden Gate project at 1508 Church Street, which has adequate bathing and cooking facilities on site, would be smaller than the EVRC project, housing only 10-15 young adults between the ages of 18 and 23 each night.

The youth would be transported by van from the EVRC to the Church Street shelter at 9:30 p.m., where they would be provided

dinner, showers, a bed, and breakfast, and transportation back to the Castro at 9 the next morning.

No drugs, alcohol, or cigarettes would be permitted. Drop-ins would not be admitted to the shelter, and if a youth were to leave during the night, they would not be re-admitted. A minimum of two staff members would be on site at all times.

Crime and process

The two top concerns expressed at Sunday's meeting were security and "process," or inadequate advance consultation with the neighbors — the same two issues raised by neighbors of the failed shelter project at 2500 Market Street in the Castro.

Neighbor Rachel Callahan, a physician, said the shelter would do

"nothing to help those kids," while it would endanger the community. "Right now, the neighborhood has a low crime rate," she said. "There are no used condoms, needles, or human excrement on the street."

But several speakers appealed to the neighbors to move beyond the "process" issues, and understand the special challenges faced by LGBTQQ youth in time for winter.

"These are not kids like any other homeless kids," cried Bryna Rifkin, who said she has 30 years experience as a schoolteacher. "Their whole educational experience has been traumatic. They have dealt with a lot of other problems that a lot of people never see ... Someone has to reach out a hand."

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Mayoral debate

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Ammiano supporter, in reference to Ammiano being a regular Muni rider.

When the candidates arrived, supporters chanted "Four more years," when Brown walked up to the podium, and "Win, Tom, win," when Ammiano entered the auditorium. The crowd was about evenly split between the candidates.

Opening statements

"This is truly participatory democracy at its best," Ammiano said during his opening statement, adding that one difference between himself and Brown is one of openness in city government. "I promise that change to you."

Brown said people have asked important questions during the debates. "You've asked me about Muni and you've asked Tom about taxes. There are differences between us. I have consistently pushed for lower crime," Brown said, adding that Ammiano voted against Brown's budget plan to hire 21 additional police officers.

Crime, housing, AIDS

The candidates were asked how they would make the Tenderloin — a rough area known for its crime rate — safer for families, children, and senior citizens.

Brown pointed to full police staffing and mentioned the police station planned for the Tenderloin. He also mentioned parks that have been cleaned up, including the children's play areas in the Civic Center. "All these are steps designed to produce a safe, friendly environment," said the mayor.

"I found the mayor's opening statement very taxing," Ammiano

quipped, drawing laughter from the audience. The Board of Supervisors president then stated that he voted for what the board's budget analyst recommended regarding the 21 police officers — to hire them later in the budget year.

"I do believe in community policing," Ammiano said, adding he'd also like to explore incentives for police officers who live in the neighborhoods they patrol.

Another question involved the homeless, one of the big issues in the mayor's race. Ammiano said he'd like to involve homeless people in the city's homeless policies. As for quality-of-life laws, such as aggressive panhandling, Ammiano said he wants those laws implemented.

Brown defended his decisions on the homeless, saying San Francisco has been "a model for the nation." He said a continuum of care plan has been implemented and that \$14 million was added to the city's budget to increase the substance abuse treatment on demand program.

Affordable housing and the state Ellis Act law were also discussed at Sunday's debate. The Ellis Act allows building owners the right to take their property off the rental market and evict all tenants. A change in the law that goes into effect next month forces property owners to give more notice to tenants, and that has resulted in more Ellis Act evictions now, before the law changes.

"The Ellis Act has become a major issue in our city," Brown said. He added that he "stepped up to the plate" regarding an Ellis Act eviction in Chinatown and got the planned evictions of elderly tenants stopped. Brown also talked about working with state Senator John Burton (D-San

Francisco) to further change the law.

"We need to 'Ellis' the Ellis Act," Ammiano responded. He added that while some of Brown's ideas "have merit," something needs to be done immediately to halt the evictions. "We need to move ahead at full speed."

On another housing question, Brown pointed to the 1,500 units of affordable housing created during the last four years and talked of future affordable housing units at Treasure Island and other locations. "It is necessary for people to have a place to live," said Brown.

"This is the definitive issue to me for the next mayor," said Ammiano. "Neighbors need to call the shots." He suggested a possible waiver on density restrictions for developers in exchange for a percentage of the units being designated for affordable housing. Ammiano pointed out that live-work units are not required to have affordable housing nor are they required to pay school fees.

The candidates addressed HIV/AIDS issues, which also concern many Tenderloin residents. "The personal becomes political," said Ammiano, who lost his partner to the disease. "Peer education is crucial to the prevention of HIV." He said he's a "little disturbed about" the current state of the city's AIDS services, noting San Francisco General Hospital has had to cut hundreds of thousands of dollars for AIDS services.

Brown touted his AIDS Summit held in January 1998 that produced over 200 initiatives. Of those, a return to work program has been implemented through the Department of Public Health, the mayor said. "AIDS is still a real threat in communities of color," he added. ▼

Kerry Lobel

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Lobel said she has no specific people in mind to replace her, but wants someone who will continue NGLTF's expanded vision.

"Our ideals will remain intact, because that is the nature of this organization," said Lobel. "We are deeply connected to people with real lives."

'No-brainer' inclusion

It is this connection, said Lobel, that led to NGLTF's expanded vision, because for many of those involved with the work, inclusion of race, class, and gender was "a no-brainer." Under Lobel, the task force refused to endorse the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act

(ENDA), written to protect gays and lesbians, because transgenders were not included in the language of the bill. Other groups, such as the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), backed the bill, believing it was best to take whatever they could get. Lobel, however, believes that "No one should be forced to leave a part of him or herself at the door in order to participate in our movement."

"We have understood that this is what most LGBT people need in order to live their lives," said Lobel,

"because we have been out there, and have helped build the infrastructure of these local movements."

The LGBT movement has grown tremendously under Lobel's leadership at the task force, according to colleagues.

"Since Kerry Lobel became executive director of NGLTF in 1996, we have all benefited from her vision of a stronger grassroots movement for equal rights for all Americans," said Brian Bond, ex-

"No one should be forced to leave a part of him or herself at the door in order to participate in our movement."

— Kerry Lobel

ecutive director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

"NGLTF and our movement will forever be stronger because of Kerry Lobel," said Rachel Rosen, NGLTF board co-chair.

NGLTF's annual budget went from \$2 million to \$3.6 million in three years, and its staff went from 16 to 34 people. NGLTF also launched several new programs under Lobel, from the Aging Initiative, which addresses Medicaid, Social Security, and the aging process from an LGBT stand-

point; to the Legislative Lawyer Project, where lobbyists and lawyers work together at a local level to develop strategies to combat anti-gay bills in their region. Another program, Equality Begins at Home, culminated in 350 events in 50 state capitols last March, and NGLTF dispersed \$5,000 to every state and two territories in order to help build local movement infrastructure. Additionally, the Racial and Economic

Justice Initiative established a long-term commitment to communities of color and to combating racism within predominately white LGBT circles.

Lobel, of course, wants all of this work to continue after her departure, and would also like to see outreach to other populations, such as prisoners.

"We haven't done prison programming, and it's a tremendous need that has to be filled," said Lobel, citing prison problems such as inadequate healthcare, transgenders housed according to assigned gender on legal documents, and violence against incarcerated LGBT people. "As we begin to understand our community more, I hope that new initiatives will emerge."

Lobel is optimistic that her successor will not only build on what she has done, but be able to surpass it.

"I don't have any doubt," said Lobel, "that he or she is out there." ▼



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Gender-rational gap

Pageant honors the fakest of fakers

by Katie Szymanski

This Sunday, December 12, a handful of Bay Area women will stuff their crotches, apply fake beards, and man themselves up before they take the stage at New Meat Campus Theater. Drag kings? No. They're drag queens, and their preparation ritual requires an additional step. These women will then dress in female attire, down to the reddest of lipsticks and highest of heels. They may "accidentally" have a small beard line showing through their makeup or an underwear lump that "gives away" their male genitalia. Welcome to the 1999 Faux Queen Pageant, the fifth annual event for "genetically challenged drag queens," that is, women impersonating men impersonating women.

Produced by the Klubstitute Collective — "a diversity of perversion since 1990" — the pageant has a \$5 to \$25 sliding scale admission fee and benefits Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services and the Saint James Infirmary. People of all genders are welcome — and encouraged — to watch.

This will be the first time in 20 years that women will perform at the traditionally all-male space. She-male impersonators are invited to compete for hundreds of dollars worth of prizes. Faux queens



1996 Faux Queen winner Patty O'Furniture.

must prepare a lip-synch number, and will be judged on drag, talent, and personality. Judges will look for big hair, layered makeup, press-on nails, and drag persona.

"We've had wonderful performers who didn't win because they didn't drag it up," explains hostess Ruby Toosday. "You get extra points for all that stereotypical stuff, from attitude right down to your stage name." Past contestants include Patty O'Furniture, Bea Dazzler, Barbie Q., and Lady Godiva Muff.

This year's celebrity judges are Fairy Butch, Supervisor Leslie

Katz, sexologist Dr. Carol Queen, drag king Barry "Fresh" White, actress Deena Davenport, and drag queens Birdie Bob Watt and Trauma Flintstone. Audience cash tips also count toward the score of the contestants.

If you're a drag queen trapped in a woman's body, this is the outlet you've been waiting for.

"As far as I know, this is the only event of its kind in the entire country," says Toosday.

If you're simply looking for a good time, the Faux Queen Pageant is the place to be this Sunday. ▼



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Carole Fiedler

Bowl to raise money for COLAGE Sunday

by Katie Szymanski

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) will host its fourth annual bowl-a-thon this Sunday, December 12, an event where participants raise money for local programming by bowling, eating,

and socializing all afternoon.

Anyone and everyone is welcome, and the day's festivities are free, but participants are asked to get their friends, families, and co-workers to sponsor them through pledges. Pledges are basically a flat donation — anything from \$5 to more than \$100 — and are a way for supporters to say, "Here's some money for you to bowl," according to Jude Koski, COLAGE field coordinator.

Prizes will be awarded for highest and lowest score, best costume, and most money raised. People can play on teams that

they organize themselves, or they can just show up. COLAGE aims to raise \$5,000 from the event and is expecting about 100 people.

"We're getting a great response," said Koski.

Proceeds benefit the organization's work on behalf of sons and daughters of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgender parents. ▼

The bowl-a-thon takes place at Japantown Bowl, 1790 Post Street, from 1 to 5 p.m. For more info, or to obtain pledge forms, call (415) 861-5437.

Holiday events for older lesbians

by Katie Szymanski

Attention older lesbians: Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE) knows your house is full of stuff you'll never use. This Sunday, December 12 is the perfect excuse to wrap up the loose ends in your closet and bring them to the "White Elephant Swap," a holiday tea at 145 Guerrero Street from 3 to 6 p.m. Find something you'd like to get rid of, turn it into a holiday present, and bring it along with a dessert to share. Friends and newcomers are welcome.

Also for the ladies, the "Winter Solstice and End of the Century Party and Dance" will be held on Sunday, December 19, at Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 18th and Collingwood streets, from 2 to 4 p.m. Women of all ages are encouraged to attend, and rumor has it that the "GLOE dancers" may perform.

Both events are free. For more information, call (415) 255-2937. ▼

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AIDS medication issues almost ignored at WTO

by Homer Hobi, ACT UP/
 Golden Gate Writers Pool

During last week's protests in Seattle surrounding the World Trade Organization conference we heard much about environmental and labor concerns. A less prominent but equally vital issue has emerged: compulsory licensing and parallel importing.

At stake is the ability of developing nations as well as countries with socialized medicine such as Canada to manufacture generic versions of essential HIV/AIDS drugs such as Efavir and Zerit (3TC and d4T) to treat those who cannot afford the exorbitant cost of brand name HIV/AIDS drugs. This political hot potato is preventing millions of people from receiving HIV/AIDS medicine. Low cost medicines are the solution to saving lives on a global scale. But while the politicians and the drug manufacturers argue, here in the Bay Area as well as around the country HIV/AIDS activists have organized programs to provide life-saving drugs free of charge to those who could not otherwise afford them.

For the past few years the African AIDS Network (AAN) and the Positive Humanists & Friends, AIDS Medicine Recycling Project have sent a continuous supply of AIDS medications to some 120 people in countries such as Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, the Congo, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa, Thailand, Mexico, El Salvador, Colombia, Peru, Chile,

Cuba, and Zimbabwe. Both organizations rely on donated medicines from people who switch treatments. These drugs come from a variety of sources such as hospices, clinics, and individuals.

The AAN and Positive Humanists groups work closely with AIDS service organizations such as the Laura Rodriguez Foundation in Chile and the Centre in Zimbabwe in order to ensure that patients receive proper medical

treatment at no cost and that their progress is closely followed. So far the results have been extremely encouraging. Both organizations have been able to maintain an uninterrupted supply of medications to the recipients. As a consequence the results have been outstanding.

Following are some quotes from a few of the recipients:

"Before I came to the Centre, my position seemed bleak, with very little hope and my health deteriorating. After months of treatment my health suddenly began to improve, where my CD4 and CD8 blood counts began to go up, a real encouragement. This has given me new hopes and my social life has improved, my friends and family have also commented regarding my improvement." — L.P., Zimbabwe

"I had just found out that I had lost the drug lottery for ddI and AZT at San José hospital. My T-cells had dropped below 100 for the first time and I was experiencing weight loss and diarrhea. I could only work part time.

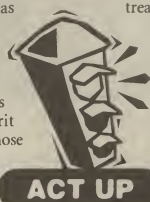
Thanks to your help I'm now back to work and have gained back my weight and my T-cells are around 450 and I have an undetectable viral load." — J.T., Chile

"James is doing very well. He had lost his hair and eyesight and stopped working — his life was a mess and ready to go. Your assistance came at the right time! He has regained his hair and eyesight and is back to work — feeling and looking great! Thank you for all your efforts." — E.K., Zimbabwe

"I got very sick 18 months ago and lost my employment. My family had no income and thought that they had lost their breadwinner. Within six weeks after starting the course I gained weight and was able to walk on my own. Now, a year and a half later, I am employed as a marketing consultant and my whole family is happy. All this is because of your assistance in donating the drugs, without which I would have died." — R.C., Zimbabwe

How people can help

Due to the limited supply of medicines available to us and the need for an uninterrupted supply of medications, volunteers with the AAN and Positive Humanists are very careful not to add more patients than the groups have resources for. The more drugs they have access to, the more people they can treat. This is where both groups need your help. If you or someone you know has an unused supply of HIV/AIDS medications, please contact us at (415) 252-9266. Or you can drop them off at the ACT UP/Golden Gate Office at 592 Castro Street, 2nd floor, in San Francisco. ▼



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- Inspect exhaust system
- Inspect heating & cooling system
- Pressure test coolant system
- Flush radiator & replace coolant
- Inspect hydraulic brake system
- Replace brake fluid
- Adjust parking brake
- Inspect brake lining
- Rotate tires
- Set tire pressure
- Lube & adjust hinges
- Adjust steering gear box
- Inspect drive shaft
- Inspect c/v boots, suspension system, front & rear
- Inspect exterior lights
- Road test

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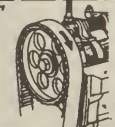
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VIRACEPT IS POWERFUL It's tough on HIV. In many people, VIRACEPT lowered the amount of HIV in the blood to levels below the limit of detection of the test used, and substantially increased CD4 cell counts after 24 weeks of triple combination therapy.

(The clinical significance of changes in viral RNA levels in blood has not been established.

The virus may still be present in other organ systems.) **VIRACEPT IS EASY TO LIVE WITH**

Take it three times a day with your normal meals or light snacks. **VIRACEPT IS GENERALLY WELL TOLERATED** People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is diarrhea of moderate or greater intensity in 20% of people in clinical trials. **VIRACEPT WORKS** It's indicated for the treatment of HIV

infection when anti-HIV drug therapy is warranted. It is not yet known whether taking VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. Some common medications and some

HIV related medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus

and hyperglycemia, and with increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia. Ask your doctor. For more information, call toll free **1-888-VIRACEPT** or visit

www.agouron.com. (Refer to the important information on the next page.)

VIRACEPT
nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder


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Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
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*IMS NPA Prescription Data 8/98 - 5/99

VIRACEPT

nelfinavir mesylate

tablets and oral powder

Information for Patients About VIRACEPT® (VI-ra-cept) Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane® (terfenadine, for allergies)
- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglate®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events. Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate® This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)
- These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.
- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")
- If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- Epivir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddl)

If you are taking both Videx (ddl) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.
- Other NNRTIs
- VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Norvir® (ritonavir)
- The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Invirase® (saquinavir)
- The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label. The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight		Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
Kg	Lb			
7 to < 8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	-
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	-
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	-
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	-
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	-
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	-
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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Issued 11/13/97

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OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste. If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Brian Corr

Brian James Corr, 45, died peacefully in his sleep in early November. He enjoyed gardening in his small plot in the neighborhood garden on Dolores at 16th St., and was especially proud of his roses. Brian had a degree in interior design and enjoyed refinishing furniture. He was active in the Stop AIDS Project over the past several years.

Brian was also a founding member of the first (perhaps only?) Bipolar Support Group for gays and lesbians with mood disorders, which met weekly for over three years. Brian was a great friend and always a gentle, quiet support for someone in need. An informal gathering of friends and simple memorial will be held at his home on Sunday, December 12. For more information, call Ken at (415) 928-8160.

Stanley Lee Hunt

February 17, 1935 —
November 8, 1999



Stanley Lee Hunt, aka Chip Hunt, was born in Lapeer, Michigan, and moved to San Francisco in 1969, where he met his lover of 30 years. He is survived by his lover, John Fox, his high school

buddy, Ray Howard, his niece Lynn Hicks of Madera, California, and his many friends.

To quote a line from *Casablanca*, "Here's looking at you, kid." Rest in peace, sweetheart. I will be with you again someday in heaven.

'Father' Frank Finch dies

by Terry Beswick

W. Frank Finch, known as "Father Frank" by his many admirers, died of complications related to AIDS just after midnight on November 22, 14 years to do the day since he purchased "The Church," a building on Clementina Street in the South of Market District of San Francisco.

Born January 25, 1930 in a small North Dakota town, Finch studied to be a priest in the Seattle area for six years, but declined to take the Holy Orders, according to his friend of 14 years, John Larkin.

Finch migrated to the Bay Area 40 years ago, eventually merging his interest in religion with a desire provide a venue for gay men to have sex, while preserving a sense of anonymity. This led to his



"Father" Frank Finch

founding of the Clementina church, formally known as "The Church of St. Priapus," which became a forerunner of many sex clubs that sprang up in the city

upon the closure of the gay bathhouses in 1984.

"He sort of exemplified the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi," said Larkin. "Because there would always be a steady stream of people coming to his door, many just out of jail. He would always give them small amounts of cash to help them out."

In addition to Larkin, Finch is survived by many dear friends, including Bill Regnerus of San Francisco, who called Finch "the definition of love."

Finch, a senior payroll analyst for the city of San Francisco for many years, will be memorialized at the noon Mass this Saturday, December 11 at Saint Boniface Church at 133 Golden Gate Avenue in San Francisco. A gathering for Father Frank's admirers will be held following the Mass. ▼

Activists decry lack of drug access; Clinton hints at modified policy

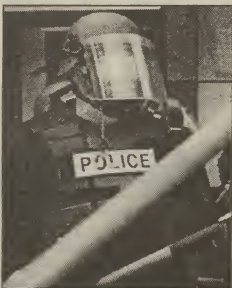
by Liz Highleyman

O n both coasts last week, activists marked World AIDS Day (December 1) by protesting U.S. trade policies that limit access to anti-HIV drugs for people in developing countries.

In Seattle, some 50,000 demonstrators gathered to protest a meeting of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Surrounded by riot police, National Guard soldiers, and clouds of tear gas, protesters spoke out against international trade rules that harm the environment and hurt low-income workers.

A number of protesters in Seattle focused on trade issues as they relate to drug patents and access. WTO member countries must agree to honor foreign patents. However, WTO trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPS) agreements allow for compulsory licensing, under which countries may locally manufacture less expensive generic versions of patented drugs, and parallel importing, which allows countries to import drugs from the cheapest source. The U.S. has stronger rules protecting pharmaceutical company patents and has threatened trade sanctions against Thailand, South Africa, and other countries that have attempted to make generic drugs available.

The international group Medicins sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders) held a forum and press conference on drug availability for poor nations. Launching its "Access to Essential Medicines" campaign, the group released a statement reading, "At the start of this new WTO negotiating round,



Riot police in Seattle during WTO

we demand that existing TRIPS rules allowing developing countries to produce and import medicines be applied without the threat of trade retaliation." The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) also made drug access a major focus. According to IGLHRC Director of Public Education Jamie Balboa, the U.S. government has "manipulated trade regulations to keep life-saving medicines accessible only to the most wealthy in the world to ensure profits for the pharmaceutical industry."

Across the country in Washington, D.C., some 400 activists from ACT UP/Philadelphia and other groups associated with the Health GAP Coalition held a march and rally in front of the White House. Chanting "Pills cost pennies, greed costs lives," demonstrators marched past the offices of pharmaceutical giant Bristol-Myers Squibb, which has opposed efforts in Thailand to develop a generic version of ddI. Demonstrators presented President Bill Clinton with a golden

urn, a tradition started at the 1996 International AIDS Conference in Vancouver; the urns are awarded to companies and individuals whose misguided policies and greed are detrimental to people with HIV. Ten protesters who tried to chain themselves to the White House fence were arrested.

In conjunction with the bi-coastal actions, the Health GAP Coalition released a white paper that described several cases in which the U.S. government has, according to the authors, put "drug company concerns ahead of public health" in international trade negotiations. The coalition has asked the WTO to form a working group on drug access and to consult with the World Health Organization on issues relating to patents on medicines.

Speaking to the WTO delegates in Seattle, Clinton indicated that the U.S. may relax its rules against compulsory licensing and parallel importing, particularly in the case of AIDS drugs. "Intellectual property protections are very important to a modern economy," he said, "but where the HIV and AIDS epidemics are involved ... the U.S. will henceforth implement its healthcare and trade policies in a manner that ensures people in the poorest countries won't have to go without medicine they so desperately need." The administration said that U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky would work with the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a "flexible" method for deciding on a case-by-case basis whether to grant poor countries access to less expensive drugs during health emergencies. ▼



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YOU COULD GO BLIND

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Box tops

by Jim Provenzano

The decision by an Australian women's soccer team to pose nude for a calendar has led to outrage against the team, according to Aussie paper *The Express*.

Members of the Matildas said they stripped for the calendar to get publicity and sponsorship for their bid to go to the Olympics.

Team player Amy Taylor said that the women wanted to dispel notions of what a female athlete is.

"I wanted to prove to people we are not all big, butch, muscular, lesbian football players," she said. "We are attractive. We are feminine. We are girls who play soccer."

As Ren said to Stimp, "Your wealth of ignorance astounds me."

Obviously this is one team we won't be expecting to offer hosted housing at Gay Games VI. And I don't know if any lesbian teams would want to pose for a calendar to get down under, but I'm sure there's a target market for everyone.

This crass comment by avowed heterosexual Ms. Taylor reminds me of the specious statement made at the height of Women's World Cup mania.

One of the coaches, between some blathering indulgent overpaid near-blond late night talk show host's innuendo, remarked that, "Now it's okay for girls to play soccer."

Now? Have you raked the playing fields free of sapphic mines? De-dykified the locker rooms? Checked the het content of your equipment? Goodness knows Ms. Taylor wouldn't want to play with a taint of butchness. No, she's too busy getting her thighs airbrushed for her *Playboy* spread.

And what if one of the players on the cover of US Soccer Golden Goals™ Crispy Corn & Oat Puffs

Sweetened with Honey, were to include a man-hating box-muncher?

And since when did posing nude become a straight-only thing? What more do those breeders need to steal from us before we all become the only ones having kids while they're all snorting poppers and coveting each others' Abba remixes?

The number of male soccer teams posing nude, their soccer balls coyly hiding their other ones, must be in the hundreds. What does

this prove? That these men are all straight? As if Grande.

Are they so dim as to

think that only women will enjoy such publicity stunts?

Does sport even have a sexual orientation? Will someone donate these people—and those rabidly hateful Aggies, who

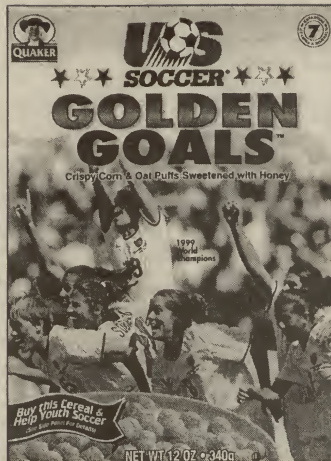
obviously have a lot of time on their hands between pompous rituals memorializing messed-up rituals and avoiding English 101 classes—a ticket to the clue train?

Bottom dollar

Straight to video, since it probably doesn't have any worthy locker room scenes, but you football fans will love, since we no longer have a football team, and you can't even watch the games in bars: *Any Given Sunday*, Oliver Stone's latest "masterpiece."

This is why he passed on the Harvey Milk biopic? To concoct a re-hash of the "grumbling coach makes a comeback" story? For those who didn't get enough of Al Pacino's shouting in the otherwise terrific *The Insider*, now we can hold our ears as he bellows from the sidelines into a headset.

The number of boos and hisses from just watching the preview rose to a par with Willie Brown's fatuous cameo in *George of the Jungle*.



Surreal cereal: No lesbians here!

That time, people threw popcorn. Remember folks, Willie's co-star in the scene was the evil Pac Heights matron who conspired to kick fun-loving George out of town; obviously a devoted campaign contributor.

Speaking of politics, the Tom-apalooza last week at the Victoria Theatre was quite a hit, raising almost 10 grand for the President—of the board, for now. Among the

fab jokesters was Scott Capurro, who joked about his new Abercrombie & Fitch cargo pants, and the way-gay catalog that's causing such a ruckus and is fodder for — dare I say it? — BONFIRES nationwide.

Scott inquired if A&F were aiming toward a gay market.

"About half," said his shop-person.

Scott's quip: "The bottom half?"

My own experience with said corporo-shop, and catalog, was less pleasant. When inquiring post-Thanksgiving about the now sold-out racy tome, amid a throng of clueless

family shoppers, the clerk, between snippily clicking off security tags, loudly bellowed, "We don't have the pornography here!"

"Oh, that's too bad!" I bellowed back, considering "accidentally" knocking a few \$50 flannel shirts from their anointed folded stacks.

Remembering the itchy trigger fingers of mall security rent-a-cops, I hastened out. The pimply cheerful teens handing out

coupons upon my exit, offered a "Thanks!" or some other greeting. I inquired about their thoughts on the banned catalog.

"We don't think it's pornography."

"Are you a reporter?"

"Oh, was I not supposed to say that?"

"You'll have to check with our corporate offices."

I shall. They're located in Ohio. As most people know, the CEO of A&F is a big mo. Like that took any detective work.

I strolled out into the shopping masses, as Aryan semi-nude glistening jocks posing as wrestlers loomed on the plastered posters adorning the under-construction upstairs outlet of A&F.

So, what's our lesson, from defiantly non-lesbian nude soccer players and cockily coy catalogs?

Actual references to sex are considered obscene, but exploiting sports via sex to sell flannel and calendars isn't. Doubleplus-good.

Speaking of selling, check out the *Advocate's* latest issue. Neat cover story on gay baseball player Billy Bean, plus a review of a certain gay wrestling novel. ▼

Mitulski

◀ page 23

Julie Burdekin said she had lived for 10 years on nearby Duncan Street, where she had raised her son, now 20 years old. "I really feel like Noe Valley is my home, and before I came here I was homeless," she said, pleading through tears for her neighbors to support the shelter. "In a sense, this church is not a democratic process, this is a calling."

"I have a suggestion to Reverend Mitulski," Leno told the group toward the end of the meeting, glancing to the pastor seated to his left. "Involve the neighbors in a greater way than you have. The comments I've heard from the neighbors are accurate."

Leno noted that he would be running for supervisor next year from their district. "This is the toughest stuff," he said. "When people want to know why there is such a problem of homelessness, you're experiencing it now. This is why it's so intractable."

Still, after the experience attempting to establish a youth shelter in the Castro, Leno has decided not to carry the water for the MCC project.

"I'm going to follow Tom's lead on this," Leno told the B.A.R. "At the same time, it is critical to its success that we should make use of the lessons we learned at 2500 Market Street."

"I know I sounded arrogant yesterday, and I've been dealing with that all night," acknowledged Mitulski on Monday. "But I do want to

develop practical solutions to address the neighbors' concerns."

Mitulski and others felt that even if the security issues were addressed, some neighbors will still oppose the shelter.

"If it has to be a consensus," Mitulski said, "I'm not sure you can ever get a consensus on a homeless shelter in any neighborhood." ▼

Upper Noe Valley neighbors are holding a meeting to discuss the proposed shelter tonight, Thursday, December 9, at 7:30 p.m., at the Upper Noe Valley Recreation Center at the corner of Day and Sanchez streets. For future meeting times and locations, call MCC at (415) 863-4434.

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HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital at 900 Hyde Street in San Francisco.

For more information, please call

* Mark Bowers at 415-353-6215.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TV commercial

◀ page 4

Action (LGADDA). Robert Barnes, a well-known political consultant and Alice Club member, said the two groups paid \$150,000 to television and radio stations to air the ad between now and the December 14 runoff.

Brown faces openly gay Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano in the upcoming runoff. While Ammiano has more support among gays and lesbians—53 percent to 31 percent according to a recent poll published in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Brown leads his challenger by about 20 points overall. Ammiano's campaign staff pointed out that pollsters misread voters before last month's election, predicting Ammiano would finish third with about 12 percent of the vote. He came in second with about 25 percent of the vote.

At a screening of the ad last Friday, members of both gay political clubs spoke about the significance of the ad. Barnes said the two clubs raised the money through fundraisers and "from a lot of different groups." The ad was produced by Robert Barnes & Associates.

"Never before has a gay couple spoken to the electorate at large," Barnes said.

"This ad is representative of our commitment to building coalitions, our commitment to

standing up for the diversity of our LGBT community, and our ability to bring together a positive and effective campaign to support the re-election of Willie Brown," said Esther Lee, Alice Club co-chair. "This is not only a first for our production of this political TV ad, but a first for the collaborative efforts between Alice and LGADDA to make it happen."

Added Alonzo Reese, political action committee chair of LGADDA, "The difference between this runoff and the mayor's first successful election is that this year Mayor Brown's opponent, Supervisor Tom Ammiano, is a gay man who also offers a strong history of support for the gay and lesbian community."

Reese said he and others understand how that creates a difficult decision for many in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community.

"The message is that it's okay to be LGBT in San Francisco and vote for Willie Brown," Lee said.

Lee said the Alice Club has taken some heat in the community for its decision to endorse Brown. "We did get juicy hate mail and voice mails accusing us of being sellouts," Lee said.

She added, however, that expecting all gays to vote for Ammiano is ridiculous. "In that same sense, then I should have gotten all the Asians out to vote for [Senate candidate] Matt Fong instead of for Barbara Boxer last year," Lee said. ▼

Castro folks

◀ page 17

Michael England, 54, is an openly gay Castro area renter, and also an Ammiano supporter. "I'm not sure that Brown is different from any other politician that has been in office a long time—he has a lot of connections and a lot of influence. Still, I think that tends to have a corrupting effect. I think Tom is far less corrupt than the mayor is."

Michael Beekman, an openly gay renter, supported Ammiano

"strictly as a protest vote" in the general election, but will vote for the incumbent in the runoff. "Tom scares me on the tax issue," he said. "All of his solutions seem to be related to raising taxes, in terms of social issues, fiscal issues, whatever else."

Susan Reiner-Lyon, 53, lives in Noe Valley and works in the medical field. Openly lesbian, she will vote for Ammiano, but not because he's gay. "I really do believe that he has the neighborhoods' best interests at heart," she said.

"I'm also real tired of Mayor Brown's self-interest and his in-

terest for his friends, the cronyism," Reiner-Lyon commented. "I was very supportive of him, very excited four years ago, and feel very let down for the city of San Francisco."

Vincent Hom voted for openly gay mayoral candidate Jim Reid in the general election, but is undecided about the runoff. "I guess for me it will be a matter of who will make the most effective changes," said the 33-year-old homeowner. "The biggest thing is Muni. I don't think any changes have been made whatsoever." ▼

No on Knight

◀ page 22

feat this initiative."

'Will & Grace' speak out

The entire cast of *Will & Grace*, a popular television sitcom about openly gay characters, recently took the unprecedented step of shooting a 30-second spot in which they come out against the Knight initiative.

"Hi. We are the cast of *Will & Grace*," says Eric McCormack,

who plays Will on the show. "On March 7, Californians will go to the polls to vote either for or against basic civil rights."

"Proposition 22, known as the Knight initiative, would legalize discrimination against gay and lesbian Americans and their families," adds Debra Messing, who plays Grace.

Megan Mullally, who plays Karen: "You can make a difference. We urge you to say no to discrimination by voting no on Knight."

"One more time please!" says Sean Hayes, who plays Jack, and

everyone chimes in, "No on Knight!"

Although the commercial is being released by the No on Knight campaign this week, no airtime has yet been purchased. ▼

For more information about the January 27 benefit, about local organizing efforts against the Knight initiative, or to donate to No on Knight online, got to www.noonknight.org, or call (415) 227-1020.

Past Out

◀ page 12

Boston at which she met Fields, the wife of *Atlantic Monthly* editor James Fields. The two women became friends instantly, and when Fields's husband died in 1881, she and Jewett formed a Boston marriage. Jewett kept the family home she had inherited in Maine, and for five months out of the year, she stayed there alone, writing full time. The two women wrote letters back and forth almost daily, calling each other names like "dear love" and expressing their loneliness for each other.

Then, during the rest of the year, "Mrs. Fields and Miss Jewett" lived together in Boston, hosting a literary salon attended by many of the greatest writers of the day, including James himself, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and on one occasion Charles Dickens. Their friends included a support

network of other couples in Boston marriages, for example, novelist Willa Cather and her partner Edith Lewis. Jewett and Fields remained intimate companions until Jewett's death in 1909.

Whether these relationships were typically sexual in nature is unknown, though among the wider society they were (and generally continue to be) presumed to be asexual. With the rise of scientific and medical inquiry into sexuality in the first decades of the 20th century, these close, loving friendships between women came under sharp scrutiny and began to be pathologized as "female inversion." ▼

David Bianco, M.A. is the author of *Gay Essentials* (Alyson), a collection of his history columns. He can be reached care of this publication or at DaveBianco@aol.com. For more Past Out, visit www.planetout.com.

Anti-Catholic

◀ page 23

it was paid for by "concerned Catholic and Christian communities."

O'Donoghue acknowledged that the flyer was also circulated at his annual Christmas party last Saturday, where he showed it to his guests, including Mayor Willie Brown, Assemblywoman Carole Migden, and Brown consultant Robert Barnes.

With photos and text, the ad focuses on Ammiano's famous defense of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence when they successfully applied for a city permit to close down two blocks of Castro Street last Easter.

"I think it is an insult for these politicians to tell us Catholics how we should feel, how we should think, and how we should vote," Sister Bernie Galvin told the *Bay Area Reporter*, commenting on what she called a "low-down, homophobic" ad. Galvin is a Catholic nun of the Sisters of Di-

vine Providence, and leader of the Religious Witnesses for Homeless People.

"If you call this ad homophobic, then I call you heterophobic," O'Donoghue told the *B.A.R.* "If Tom has a problem with us putting together this ad as a composite [of his record], then he'd better go see Goebbels and resurrect him, because he also had a problem when the truth came out."

"The residential builders have ridden a gravy train at City Hall for four years," said Belinda Griswold, Ammiano's campaign spokesperson, responding to the ad. "They are afraid San Franciscans, instead of big business, will be in the driver's seat."

Speaking at the Commonwealth Club on Tuesday, December 7, Ammiano addressed the resurrected controversy over the Easter event. "Jerry Falwell comes here all the time and says some hideous things about gay people. Democracy is not always pretty," he said, adding that he, too, is Catholic. ▼

Boy Scouts

◀ page 22

policy, not something that actually appears in the Scouting Handbook of rules and regulations.

"It would have been a positive troop for the Boy Scouts of America," said Cozza. "We were going to focus on community service, working with homeless kids at the COTS [Committee On the Shel-

terless] shelter in Petaluma. Steve was looking forward to working with the little guys."

Cozza said the troop would have followed a "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy towards gay scouts and scout leaders.

"We were going to be one of those troops that are affirming to all people," Cozza remarked.

According to Cozza, it is up to the church to appeal the charter denial. In the meantime, he plans

to continue his efforts with Scouting for All, which, through its website, has become a focal point for gays who have been thrown out of scouting.

The organization's petition to lift the gay ban has garnered over 40,000 signatures, according to Cozza. Steven Cozza, who first conceived the idea of the petition two years ago, has won numerous awards for his efforts to end anti-gay discrimination in scouting. ▼

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO.236162

The following person(s) are doing business as, VINA Co. 1539 Greenwich Street #5, San Francisco, CA. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jaroslav Vina. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/8/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/08/99.
NOV. 18, 25, DEC. 2, 9, 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO.236309

The following person(s) are doing business as, The International Spy Shop. 236 West Portal Avenue #206 San Francisco, CA. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jason A. Woodside. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/15/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/15/99.
NOV. 25, DEC. 2, 9, 16 1999

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DEC. 2, 9, 16, 23 1999

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The following person(s) are doing business as, Thai 2000 Restaurant. 2340 Geary Blvd, San Francisco, CA. 94115. This business is conducted by husband and wife signed, Kanok Wirattigowit and Wanna Wirattigowit. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/24/99.
DEC. 2, 9, 16, 23 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO.236513

The following person(s) are doing business as, Foghorn Creative. Presidio Building 39 Suite #102c, San Francisco, CA. 94129. This business is conducted by an individual signed, Donald C. Richards. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/23/99. The statement

STATEMENT FILE NO.236440

The following person(s) are doing business as, Revenue Sharing Association. 1129 Kirkham Street, San Francisco, CA. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Richard H. Trask. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/19/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/19/99.
NOV. 25, DEC. 2, 9, 16 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO.236518

The following person(s) are doing business as, Model Pharmacy. 500 Balboa Street, San Francisco, CA. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Seung Hee Kim. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11/24/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 11/24/99.

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was filed with the County Clerk of the City
and County of San Francisco, CA on
11/23/99.
DEC. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 236284
The following person(s) are doing business
as Duquez Janitorial Service, 288 Precita
Avenue, San Francisco, CA. 94110. This
business is conducted by an individual
signed, Miguel A. Duquez. The registrant(s)
commenced to transact business under the
above listed fictitious business name or
names on 11/12/99. The statement was
filed with the County Clerk of the City and
County of San Francisco, CA on 11/12/99.
DEC. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 236582
The following person(s) are doing business
as Finbarr O' Donovan Construction, 1722
43rd Avenue, San Francisco, CA. 94122.
This business is conducted by an individual
signed, Patrick F. O'Donovan. The registrant(s)
commenced to transact business under the
above listed fictitious business name or
names on 11/29/99. The statement was
filed with the County Clerk of the City and
County of San Francisco, CA on 11/29/99.
DEC. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 308059**
In the Matter of the Application of Lor-
raine Christine Mora For Change of Name.
The application of Lorraine Christine Mora
for change of name, having been filed in

court, and it appearing from said applica-
tion that Lorraine Christine Mora has filed
an application proposing that her name be
changed to Henri Armijo Mora. Now there-
fore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that
all persons interested in said matter do ap-
pear before this Court in department X-
4/206 on the 6th day of January, 2000, at
9:00am, of said day to show cause why the
application for change of name should not
be granted.
DEC. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME:
217966**
The following person(s) Mary A. Schendel
and Leon Sapp have abandoned the use of
the fictitious business name known as: L &
R Customized Car Care. Located at: 2560
Marin Street, San Francisco, CA. 94124.
The fictitious business name referred to
above was filed in the County of San Fran-
cisco on: 7/1/97. This business was con-
ducted by a general partnership signed:
Mary A. Schendel and Leon Sapp. This
statement was filed with the County Clerk
of San Francisco County on date indicated
by file stamp above. November 24, 1999.
DEC. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 236012
The following person(s) are doing business
as, Felt, 3338 23rd Street, San Francisco,
Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by
husband and wife signed Yuko Nishida and
Oliver Darius Wolfson. The registrant(s)
commenced to transact business under the
above listed fictitious business name or
names on 11/02/99. The statement was
filed with the County Clerk of the City and

County of San Francisco, CA on 11/02/99.
DEC. 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 236146
The following person(s) are doing business
as, Semicol Communications, 77 Iris Av-
enue, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This busi-
ness is conducted by an individual signed
Donna L. Reynolds. The registrant(s) com-
menced to transact business under the above
listed fictitious business name or names on
11/01/99. The statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of San
Francisco, CA on 11/05/99.
DEC. 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 236670
The following person(s) are doing business
as, MedChannel, 650 Townsend Street,
San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is
conducted by a corporation signed Richard
Sommer, President. The registrant(s) com-
menced to transact business under the above
listed fictitious business name or names on
4/26/99. The statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of San
Francisco, CA on 12/02/99.
DEC. 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

STATEMENT FILE NO. 236603
The following person(s) are doing business
as, Baldoria Trattoria Restaurant, 2164
Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94108.
This business is conducted by a corporation
signed Alessandro Iacobelli, Vice Presi-
dent. The registrant(s) commenced to trans-
act business under the above listed fictitious
business name or names on 11/29/99. The
statement was filed with the County Clerk
of the City and County of San Francisco,

CA on 11/30/99.
DEC. 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME:
0221645-00**
The following person(s) Alessandro Iacobelli
have abandoned the use of the fictitious
business name known as: Baraonda. Locat-
ed at: 2164 Larkin Street, San Francisco,
Ca. 94109. The fictitious business name
referred to above was filed in the County of
San Francisco on: 3/26/98. This business
was conducted by a corporation signed:
Alessandro Iacobelli. This statement was
filed with the County Clerk of San Francis-
co County on date indicated by file stamp
above. November 30, 1999.
DEC. 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME:
195422**
The following person(s) James R. Mariner
have abandoned the use of the fictitious
business name known as: Mariner & Com-
pany, Located at: 2500 Polk Street, San
Francisco, Ca. 94109. The fictitious busi-

ness name referred to above was filed in
the County of San Francisco on: 5/5/95.
This business was conducted by a corpora-
tion signed: James R. Mariner. This state-
ment was filed with the County Clerk of
San Francisco County on date indicated by
file stamp above. December 01, 1999.
DEC. 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 308276**
In the Matter of the Application of Jeffrey
William Yunt For Change of Name. The
application of Jeffrey William Yunt for
change of name, having been filed in court,
and it appearing from said application that
Jeffrey William Yunt has filed an applica-
tion proposing that his name be changed to
Jeffrey William Skyles Now therefore, it is
hereby ordered and directed, that all per-
sons interested in said matter do appear
before this Court in department X-4/206
on the 10th day of January, 2000, at
9:00am, of said day to show cause why the
application for change of name should not
be granted.
DEC. 9, 16, 23, 30 1999

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The roll call of the damned, continued
*Antonioni's 'Beyond the Clouds' at the
 Roxie Cinema: new tales of obsessive love.*
page 44

In this man's Army
*Brock Masters screws
 the military 'Off Limits.'*
page 53



The dark side
*Film noir double bills in
 YBC's 'Darkness Visible.'*
page 45



A BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 29 • No. 49 • 9 December 1999

Channeling Judy

*Connie Champagne has
 'A Judy Garland Christmas'*

by Richard Dodds



Kent Taylor

Connie Champagne was demonstrating a Judy Garland position in her living room. "She always stood with her left side open," she said. "It leaves you feeling very vulnerable. That's your heart you're exposing."

Champagne is a big believer in body language, in what it reveals about a person and how it can inform a performance. Watching her as Garland in a new holiday show at Piaf's, it quickly becomes clear that Champagne — both as a singer and an actress — has done her homework.

"When you're lampooning someone really well known, the core has to be real and truthful for you, or else it will be a shell of the person," she said.

Somehow, "lampoon" doesn't seem the right word for what Champagne has created in *A Judy Garland Christmas*. While the audience doesn't know at first what to expect — will this be a campy send-up or a creepy waxwork? — the performance gradually reveals itself as a warm and affectionate impression of a legend.

Champagne is something of a vocal chameleon. Having sung with punk bands, swing bands, jazz bands, and uncategorizable bands, she can easily find the rhythms, tics, and patterns of different styles and singers. But at Piaf's, as invitingly as Champagne delivers the collection of Garland standards, the real revelation comes in her ability to capture Garland the storyteller.

Working with tapes of old television performances, Champagne and director F. Allen Sawyer scripted the banter that includes classic examples of Garland's delightfully self-deprecating and outrageously exaggerated way with a story. Almost all the laughs generated in *A Judy Garland Christmas* were first earned by Garland herself.

"I'm not what you'd call a Garland freak," said Champagne, who now does most of her singing with a quirky
page 49 ►

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 Jodorowsky's 'Fando & Lis'*
 by Philip Campbell

The DVD revolution is fast growing to be one of the most popular technologies for the new millennium. But before you start groaning about expense or constant changes, it might be time to consider the advantages. Picture and sound quality are a vast and obvious improvement over videotape, and good playback equipment can now be had for less than \$300. Add some special feature options no film buff would want to live without, and you may become an enthusiastic convert.

It also looks like the entertainment industry is solidly back-

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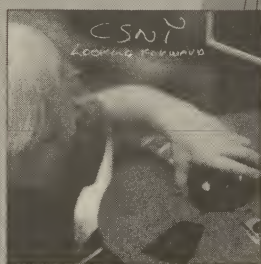


A scene from
 Alejandro
 Jodorowsky's
 "lost film"
Fando & Lis

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



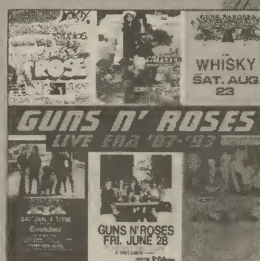
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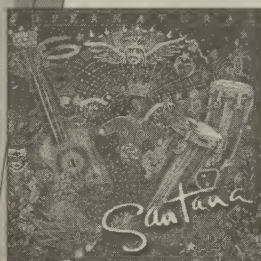
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OUT THERE

by Roberto Friedman
and Stagedoor Steve

Our scout at Liza Minnelli's big opening at the Palace Theatre on Broadway last week reports the show was "just like a big AA meeting: so much affirmation coming from the fans, you wanted to puke." Of course, Liza's Mom, **Judy Garland**, played the Palace, famously, three times in the '50s and '60s, but Momma was not there this time.



Liza Minnelli

"Dear Liza — she's still fleshy in boobs and tummy, but her face looks very good," says our merry mole. "Alas, first performance, and the girl has already strained her vocal cords. Very rusty the first act, taking water every couple of songs, but she made a game attempt at some dance steps."

Vile on the Aisle found it alarming that by Act II, Liza was reduced to sitting down while her chorus of plastic, high-butt boys did musical numbers to give her a break. "They belong in *Naked Boys Singing*, but not on B'way." One tired bit of business in which Liza flirts with a chorus boy named **Sebastian** had our spy muttering, "Hasn't she married enough gay men already?"

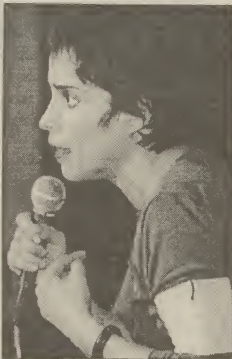
Spotted in the audience: show people **Tony Bennett**, **Betty Buckley**, **Monique van Vooren** (God bless her, she's keeping her plastic surgeon off welfare), **Sam Harris** (who recently came out in the *Advocate* — *quelle surprise*), and TV bandleader **Paul Schaeffer**. Also: lots of sweater queens with bad toupees.

Mz. Minnelli belted a ballad, a

revised version of some song about being glad she is old, in which she confronts all her demons — Studio 54, booze, drugs, fat: a real "heart-on-the-sleeve number." For a finale, Liza sang a duet with a clip of Judy doing "The Trolley Song."

All of which merely whets our appetite for the **Judy Garland Christmas** coming up at the Castro Theatre December 17. If the **Hostess Huestis** can get a performance out of Liza's sis **Lorna Luft** to match the enthusiasm of the audience, we might just top the Palace. (Info: 863-0611)

As big mouth **Sandra Bernhard** says, empathetically, "It's so easy to dog Liza." But it's too much fun to give up.



Marga Gomez at last Sunday's Tom Ammiano benefit

Bus-ted

Comedian **Marga Gomez** rented a "party bus limo" after the fabulous opening night of her *jaywalker* show at Theatre Rhinoceros last month. Gomez and her entourage whooped it up, driving around town and hitting the packed-full-of-women club Backstreet, at 550 Barneveld. But to their dismay, the group ended up having to ditch the limo bus at 7-11 because of the antics of the very rude bus driver, who, among other things, evidently had quite a penchant for Marga's butt. It all ended well, however, as the revelers *jaywalked* their way through

the Castro and the Mission back to Theatre Rhino for an impromptu after-hours game of Charades on the theater's main stage.

It's a veritable hit: Marga Gomez' *jaywalker* has been extended through December 18. For ticket information, call 861-5079.

Pitt stop

Now that the *Fight Club* boomlet has come and gone, we can say that our favorite **Brad Pitt** interview (after the *BAR* interview) was the one in *Rolling Stone*. Not only did it feature pics of the Brad in a revealing sequined dress (and one of him in a muzzle), it also revealed his sense of humor, which seems heavily reliant on trashy puns — in other words, a man after our own heart. He begins, predictably, by ragging on tabloid photographers — or "paparasholes," to use his term — who have just "got to get that pic with us picking our nose or scratching our sweaty crack." He goes on to say that he referred to last year's

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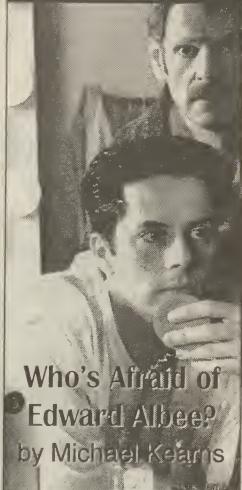
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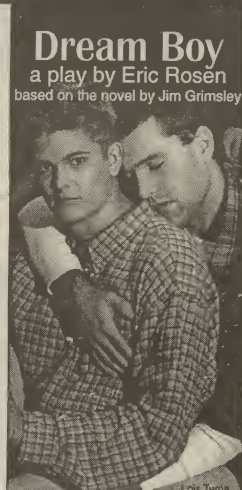
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by Michael Kearns

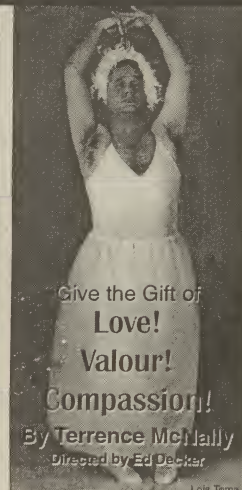
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Cowardice

'Craig Jessup sings Noël Coward'

by Jim Van Buskirk

When he died in 1973, the multi-talented Noël Coward left a remarkable legacy from a career that included roles as painter, novelist, singer and songwriter, recording artist, actor, nightclub performer, playwright, and star of stage, screen, and television. This month marks the 100th anniversary of Coward's birth on December 16, 1899 into a lower-middle-class family in Middlesex, England. Ambitious and self-educated, he was still in his teens and early 20s when he developed perhaps his most remarkable creation: his persona of the ultimate sophisticated gentleman, a role that was then embraced by the English public. A friend recently confessed that he "could never tell if Coward was fey, or just British."

Among the many international celebrations of Coward's centennial are two not-to-be missed performances in San Francisco. On Tuesday, December 14, the Plush Room hosts *San Francisco Celebrates Noël Coward*. The event is a benefit for KALW featuring Peter Mintun, Faith Winthrop, Wesla Whitfield, Craig Jessup, and Paula West (reprising her poignant "Mad About the Boy" from the recent Carnegie Hall tribute). For more Coward, allow me to recommend Craig Jessup's one-man show currently at the



Craig Jessup

Nob Hill Restaurant in the Mark Hopkins Hotel, through January 29.

Striding on-stage carefully cradling a cup of tea, dressed in a maroon smoking jacket and black tie, Jessup immediately conjures the spirit of Noël Coward. With his slick-backed hair and well-groomed demeanor, he catches the essence of Coward's *savoir faire*, including a credible British accent, and even a few dance steps on the tiny stage. The wood-paneled room is a suitably elegant venue for *Craig Jessup Sings Noël Coward*. Enjoying the three-course prix-fixe dinner while watching the show was like the classiest of TV dinners.

Fungus amongus

Jessup as Coward recounts the story of his life as he describes projected slides, such as one of himself in an early stage role as a mushroom, and another of him sitting in a big bed wearing Chinese pajamas. Interwoven into the narrative is a sampling of Coward's songs. Jessup's biographical sketch is just informative enough, both for those relatively unfamiliar with Coward and those well-versed in his life and times.

In 1924, his scandalous hit *Vortex*, a play dealing with drugs and incest, moved from London to New York, immediately making Coward the toast of Broadway. This was quickly followed by *Private Lives*, which he claims to have written in three days. An archival audio recording allows us to listen to the voices of Coward and his leading lady and lifelong muse, Gertrude Lawrence, in a scene from the play.

Many of Coward's most famous songs are superbly rendered, including a wonderfully romantic "Someday I'll Find You," the delightfully vicious "What's Going to Happen to the Tots?" and a dark and biting "Don't Put

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THEATRE



Solo performer David Mills in *What I Want*

General Mills

'What I Want' at Intersection for the Arts

by Richard Dodds

Maybe David Mills is mellowing. In *Duty Free*, his 1998 solo performance at the Intersection for the Arts, he capped off a curtain-call rant with "Fuck you all." But in *What I Want*, his current show at the same theater, the kinder and gentler "Go to hell" sends us on our way.

The new solo show, also directed by Danny Scheie, continues Mills' channel-surfing style that moves back and forth among several running themes, with his disdain for solo artists high on the list. As he rattles off the names of the offenders, he includes his own name, though perhaps the invective seems more detailed when describing the sins of others.

This can be very funny stuff, especially his send-up of Anna Devereaux Smith's documentary approach to headline issues. But it's also perilously inside stuff, with Smith, hardly a household name, being the most famous of solo performers who get picked on. Danny Hoch, Scott Capurro, David Drake, and Sean San Jose (who was in the audience) are among the other performance artists rudely mentioned who may or may not register with theatergoers.

But blows to solo shows are not the entirety of this firmly packed 50-minute show. Mills makes a star entrance to the theme from *The Carol Burnett Show*, and plays the role of a TV host whose show is about to be replaced by yet another edition of *Dateline*, which then provides the set-up for a very special interview with Ashley Judd on world affairs.

The poison that fuels Mills' diatribes, cheap shots, and bitter musings on life, love, and career may come from a very real place, but it's also part of the joke. "I'm an artist, so don't expect to get everything I do," he haughtily tells the audience, in an aside that gets its humor from its self-mocking arrogance.

The line also absolves both Mills and the audience from having to pull the rapidly shifting scenes into a coherent whole, and we can enjoy Mills' considerable skills as an edgy parodist. *What I Want* is toxic in a very merry way. ▼

What I Want will run at the Intersection for the Arts through Dec. 12. Tickets are \$9-\$14. Call 626-3311.

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SF Opera's 'Bohème'

by Stephanie von Buchau

The worst experience you can have at the opera is not, as Preston Sturges has a character say in the divine *Unfaithfully Yours*, "an uncut Parsifal," but a performance of *La Bohème* that leaves you unmoved and dry-eyed. Fortunately, despite a lot that is wrong with the production and music-making (most of it correctable; though of course it will not be corrected), San Francisco Opera's current revival of Puccini's weeper is a two-hanky show.

I personally cannot resist a *Bohème* that ends with the tenor carrying his beloved Mimi across the stage. I've seen dozens of *Bohème* casts, starting with Jussi Björling and Licia Albanese in 1949, and I cannot imagine most of the tenors I've heard carrying anything heavier than a throat atomizer, certainly not Mimis as hefty as Mirella Freni, Renata Tebaldi or the pre-diet Carol Vaness, who sang it here in 1978. When Luis Lima, tiny as he is, hefted the even tinier Maria Bayo, I knew that the tender exchanges that followed were going to dissolve me.

And this despite a conductor, Emmanuel Joel, who fought the music and the mood from the first bar. The linked arias — "Che gelida manina" and "Sì, mi chiamano Mimi" — in Act I were a struggle for both singers. Funereal pacing made the tentative exchange of information — he's seductive, she's artless; both are padding their parts — seem as deadly as Tristan and Isolde's deathwish. This is *La Bohème*, not a tragedy of hubris. Then, when Act I dissolves cinematically into Act II — a smart move that works musically and knocks 30 minutes off the running time — maestro, chorus and orchestra were all on separate pages of the playbook.

Joel picked up the pace later, but all the crucial timing elements

were off. Between the crude staging — every *Bohème* cliché tripled unnecessarily, since we have supertitles — and the conductorial miscues, the double duet in Act III failed to make its romantic-ironic point. (And Musetta should never be drunk.) In the final scene, every one of those surefire moments — "Buon giorno, Marcello," "è spirata," "Come va?" and "Coraggio" — was muffed, but by then nobody could erase the impression that a fragile flower had drooped for the final time. If it isn't a tragedy, it's still very sad, and our tears are genuinely warranted.

Gold rush

Give 80 percent of the credit to Bayo. She is not an ingratiating artist. She doesn't cajole, seduce or flirt with the audience. Her Mimi is gentle and serious, but also frankly a gold digger. She reminded me of Albanese, though tinier and prettier. The voice is similarly astringent, with a large, accurate, affecting top. In those places that Puccini wants Mimi to be an opera singer, Bayo delivered the goods. Her plastique is Albanese-ish, too, angular and forceful; you felt Mimi constantly fighting her illness.

Lima had been the Rodolfo in the best *Bohème* I ever heard, that magical afternoon that ended the 1988 season. The putative stars were Freni and Pavarotti; a video exists of their generic performance. The last day, Lima and Cecilia Gasdia stepped into the roles. I started to puddle up in Act I when he says, "Che viso d'amalata" ("How ill she looks") and didn't stop for two days afterward. The audience was sobbing so heavily it sounded like a Mafia funeral. My companion said, "If opera were always like this, nobody would go to the movies." Alas, Lima has lost the vocal bloom, charm and freshness of a decade ago. He works hard and blasts the high notes with such ef-

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Baritone Earle Patriarco and tenor Luis Lima in San Francisco Opera's *La Bohème*

Noël Coward

◀ previous page

Your Daughter on the Stage." Coward was a master of internal rhymes, wordplay, and cleverly building story lines. Jessup's perfect diction allows all of Coward's complicated lyrics to be fully appreciated, even when they're delivered with remarkable rapidity.

Coward loved globetrotting, but he aptly captures its downside in the hilarious "Why Do the Wrong People Travel?" His international flair is also evident in "I Travel Alone" and "Mad Dogs and Englishmen." Before hearing "A Room with a View," we are treated to views of Coward's worldwide residences: Dover, Kent, Switzerland, and Jamaica.

As his popularity dwindled in the 1950s, Coward accepted an offer to perform at the Desert Inn in Las Vegas for an exorbitant \$35,000 per week. Derisively describing his audience as "Nescafe society," he was admired by the likes of Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis, Jr. Jessup dons a white dinner jacket and tasseled sombrero to perform the ribald "Senorita Nina from Argentina" and "Why Must the Show Go On?" With a white scarf and large martini, Jessup acts increasingly inebriated as he relates "I've Been to a Mar-

velous Party." He then chronicles the unlikely escapades of Mrs. Wentworth-Brewster in "A Bar on the Piccola Marina."

While much of this material is humorous, there are many poignant songs as well, such as the melancholy "Sail Away" and a testament to the importance of friendships in his life, "Come the Wild, Wild Weather." Jessup effortlessly evokes the vulnerability behind Coward's sardonic mask. Ably accompanied by Barry Lloyd on grand piano, Jessup's Coward, a masterfully wrought portrait, is a perfect way to celebrate his centennial. ▼

San Francisco Celebrates Noël Coward, Tuesday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m. at the Plush Room, 940 Sutter St. Tickets are \$100 and include the first two cocktails and a post-performance cake and champagne birthday party. Call 885-2800.

Craig Jessup Sings Noël Coward through January 29 at the Nob Hill Restaurant in the Mark Hopkins Hotel, 999 California St. Wed. & Thurs. at 8 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. at 8 and 10 p.m. \$45 for 3-course prix-fixe dinner, wine, and show; \$28 for dessert and Champagne (10 p.m. show only). Call 392-3434 ext. 6223.

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'Love Reinvented' at the Castro Theatre

by Gary Morris

Love Reinvented, which opens Friday at the Castro Theatre, is a reinvention in itself, a slightly altered version of a shorts show sponsored by the French government in 1997. The focus was on lesbian and gay HIV issues; and two films were added to the original ten for this version. The result is a mixed bag, *de rigueur* for shorts collections. The fact that these were commissioned films on the theme of AIDS and queers means that some of them have the stultifying feel of public service announcements, dressed up with 35mm photography and slick production values. Fortunately, several films manage to redeem the whole show.

The muse of queer indies, Alexis Arquette, opens the show as the star of David Ottenhouse's *Close To*. This rough look at a wordless anonymous fuck in a New York subway is based on one of David Wojnarowicz's memoirs, but that author's humor (even gallows humor) isn't apparent in these grim proceedings. Arquette does get instant mileage out of his searchlight stare, quivering lip, and geometric face, and the sex scene (with hunky Steve Wood) captures the crazed intensity that sometimes drives such encounters. Still, this one won't stick to the synapses the way its maker probably imagines. Surprisingly, some of the footage was actually shot in the New York subways, with trains whizzing past in the background while Steve and Alex is go at it.

Next up is Francois Deupeyron's *So What?* This one features two gorgeous dykes in a well-photographed late-night Paris trying to find a common emotional space in the face of one of them being HIV-positive. The happy ending is indicated by the title — the words one of the women says in response to the other's revelation of her illness.

Pierre Salvadori's *One Moment*

tracks the inner dialogue that's a common prelude to sex these days, as the main character rationalizes having unprotected sex: "He reads... he's into sports... and he's too young to have it." Salvadori gets points for rapid, nervous camera moves, nicely indicative of the narrator's shifting state of mind, but there's also that nagging feeling that we're trapped in a PSA. Eagle-eyed viewers may recognize the star of *One Moment* from this year's briefly-seen feature *Sitcom*.

Pretend hustler

Absurdist comedy needs a delicate, nuanced touch. Unfortunately, Philippe Faucon's *All Is Not Black* is more silly than absurd in its sketch of a queen insisting he's pregnant and demanding his lover go out and find "black caviar." More affecting is Anne Fournier's *Night Hustler*, about a young guy who pretends to be a hustler just to make human contact. His sudden plea to a john (who looks suspiciously like Al Gore) that "I'm lonely" meets a better fate than such revelations might in real life; the john takes him out for coffee.

Francois Decaux-Thomlet's *Pregnant or Lesbian?* brings up that pressing question in allegedly comic form as a teenage girl asks her parents which they'd rather she be. The liveliest thing in this disposable piece is a relentless cuckoo clock. More ambitious and more satisfying is Marion Vernoux's *Inside*, a playful, poignant study of a guy who engages in elaborate play-acting while awaiting the results of his AIDS test.

The clumsily titled *Tears of AIDS* is probably the best of this lot. Director Paul Vecchiali uses a breathtaking tropical backdrop for a subtle story of a sudden infatuation between a married bisexual and a gay man. The bi guy — "handsome as a god" in his friend's accurate phrase — swims naked in their "little paradise," but he's also naked in the sense of ex-

posed, vulnerable, desperate for love. Vecchiali's use of water as metaphor is mesmerizing and complex, with his narrator's naked swimming indicative of both freedom and the possibility of drowning. This vision of "a world where only love and sincerity matter" resonates in the narrator's words and the film's heartfelt imagery.

Merzak Allouache's *Burn Rubber* is another PSA disguised as a fictional film. In it, two cute guys run off for a weekend of frolicking but argue about whether or not they brought the rubbers. Nils Tavernier's *The Seagull* also uses a rubber motif, but to more poetic effect. A woman transitioning from straight to gay suggests the playful possibilities of these crucial little items to her *objet d'amour*: "We can cut up rubbers into circles, squares, or stars!"

In Jean-Claude Guiguet's *An Ordinary Night*, a man travels by bike to see his lover in the hospital; he's accompanied (musically) by a charming French ballad. The interchange between the two lovers — one damaged, one whole — is casual and true. Lastly, there's *Cherish*, directed by Stephen Jones. Here we see a guy who died of AIDS returned to life as a ghost urging his lover to go out and party. Jones avoids the bathos the plot summary implies, and the image of the dead man as a sensi-



Steve Wood, left, and Alexis Arquette in David Ottenhouse's *Close To*

ble spiritual guide has a quiet power. These last two entries have something in common: they're both sweet tributes to enduring amour, and, along with *Tears of AIDS* and *Inside*, they make this

program worth seeing. ▼

Love Reinvented plays the Castro Theatre December 10-16.

La Bohème

◀ previous page

fort one fears for his vocal cords. He got no help from the poky Joel in "Che gelida manina," and the conductor allowed him to bawl the unwritten high C at the end of Act I. Bad marks all around.

Ainhwa Arteta, a Basque soprano popular at the Met, also made a local debut. She's pretty in the Julia Roberts mode and, like Julia, one wishes she weren't so aggressively in your face. The voice is shrill but expressive, and she caught both

Musetta's bitchy qualities and her warm heart. If the portrait didn't erase memories of Nicollet Folland's star-making turn on opening night of the 1996 "Broadway-style" *Bohème*, the War Memorial is a much bigger house than the Orpheum. We'll see what Folland can do when *Bohème* returns in January with a new cast.

Vocally from this evening, the most memorable event was the US debut of Giorgio Giuseppe, whose warm, buttery basso, fine diction, pure vowels and excellent phrasing (despite Joel's lack of unanimity with the singers) made

Colline's coat aria sound as good as I've ever heard it. The other Bohemians, Earle Patriarco (Marcello) and Alfredo Daza (Schaunard), sounded like Adler Fellows (Daza is this season; Patriarco was a few years ago) — in other words, not quite ready for prime time, though a more experienced conductor might not have drowned them out so relentlessly. ▼

La Bohème plays in repertory through January 16 at the War Memorial Opera House. Call 864-3330.

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Once I calmed down, the Bitch's words did not ring so sourly in my ears. "I'll show her!" I cried, shaking my fist at the morning sky.



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John Malkovich and Sophie Marceau in Michaelangelo Antonioni's *Beyond the Clouds*

Obtuse angles

Antonioni's 'Beyond the Clouds'

by Chris Culwell

Reviewing a new Yeats biography in a recent issue of *The Nation*, Benjamin Kunkel observed that among the many things that contributed to the poet's enigma was his ability to speak to people in the language of the dead. All in a day's work for a man who didn't believe in orthodox religion yet yearned for a supernatural experience that could bring depth to life and art. Much the same could be said of the films of Antonioni, only in this case the dead who speak to us aren't the incorporeal, they're the living dead of this world, the burned-out, alienated or just plain confused. For five decades these have been the motivating spirits of his films, the roll call of the damned including the doomed lovers of *Cronaca di un amore*, Gabriele Forzetti's failed architect in *L'avventura*, Monica Vitti's disturbed housewife in *The Red Desert*, David Hemming's rootless photographer in *Blow Up*, Mark Frechette's ambivalent radical in *Zabriskie Point*, and Jack Nicholson's bummed reporter in *The Passenger*.

For a period of time in the '60s and '70s, these addled protagonists spoke urgently to filmmakers who saw reflections of themselves in all the angst. Today, Antonioni's black arts don't work quite the same magic. Ennui is no longer a new experience for the urban bourgeoisie, the milieu at the heart of all Antonioni's films, and the antic desperation that has unseated restlessness as today's official state of mind has yet to find its Yeats. Hence, the idea of a new film from Antonioni leaves us wondering if the director is breaking new ground late in life — he is now 86 years old — or just repeating himself for the record.

Beyond the Clouds, released in Europe three years ago but only now reaching the US, is hardly groundbreaking, but it is certainly more than a graveside valedictory flourish. Based on *The Bowling Alley on the Tiber*, a collection of short stories (many of them autobiographical) that Antonioni penned himself, *Beyond the Clouds* is a provocative and highly personal look at the nature of love, its fragility and beauty, its weirdness and banality, and above all, its profound mystery.

Being John Malkovich

Made with the aid of longtime

collaborator Tonino Guerra and filmmaker Wim Wenders, *Beyond the Clouds* consists of four tales of love and obsession that float through the mind of a gloomy, nomadic director (John Malkovich), a stand-in for Antonioni himself. The first of the film's vignettes concerns a young man (Kim Rossi-Stuart) and a fresh-faced woman (Ines Sastre) who meet, acknowledge their passion for each other, but don't act on it because the man can't reconcile this woman with the ideal one in his imagination.

In the second story, Malkovich becomes obsessed with a satyrine nymph (Sophie Marceau) whose beautiful face, marred by a perpetual snarl, conceals a dark secret he finds as irresistible as her perfect figure. The third anecdote deals with an adulterous Parisian businessman (Peter Weller) who refuses to choose between the two great loves of his life: Patricia, his glamorous but aging wife (Fanny Ardant), and a younger woman (Chiara Caselli). Patricia finally leaves her philandering squeeze, repairing to a minimalist high rise not-quite-yet vacated by a man (Jean Reno) whose wife has just left him. When the two meet, they size each other up with interest, but the gestures are wary and tentative. In the film's final sequence, Vincent Perez spends an evening pursuing a cold woman (Irene Jacobs), only to discover by evening's end that the increasingly warm object of his fascination is to enter a convent the next day.

The simplicity with which these tales are put across is likely to prove off-putting to viewers not accustomed to Antonioni's characteristically sparse filmmaking. Here, terseness will be mistaken for conventionality, a misperception not helped in the least by the script, which is short on details and long on pretension. ("I'm enslaved by your silence," one character says to another only minutes after they've met.) But Antonioni has never known what to do with words. His films are largely visual essays that attempt to reveal the truth of things through a film's internal rhythms, indirection, and stealth silence: a story sketched, not drawn. Mere behavior has always been more interesting to him than contrivances of plot, narrative and character. And with the exception of a few of the aforementioned gaffes, *Beyond the Clouds* is yet another breathtaking example of this truth-is-on-the-surface aesthetic, the gist of his

film being conveyed through body language, camera inflection within shots and sequences, atmospheric sounds.

Strangers in the night

While Antonioni's aesthetic has often had mixed results, as anyone who has seen *The Red Desert* will attest, the formalism here doesn't obliterate the director's point of view. Indeed, Antonioni's real accomplishment in *Beyond the Clouds* lies in the masterful way he has captured with the simplest means the obtuseness of desire, showing how it can inhabit us, possess us, make us strangers to ourselves and others.

There are several scenes in *Beyond the Clouds* that are so brilliantly conceived that they can easily be mentioned in the same breath with Antonioni's best work. In one of these, Fanny Ardant, middle-aged, defeated, exhausted by love, stands for a spell in front of a man (Reno) to whom she suddenly finds herself attracted, knowing full well that he is attracted to her. She knows the drill: the joy that will initiate love, the jealousy and recriminating scenes that will strain it, the boredom that will eventually kill it. Does she really want to go through this again? The pained expression on her face is acknowledgment not just of her resignation to these forces but her incomprehension of them.

In the film's most stunning scene, Malkovich's ethereal director wanders aimlessly onto an empty, windswept beach under a glowering sky. He looks off into the sea as the wind sweeps up both water and sand. Everything now is movement in one direction, like time itself, but squarely in the middle of this dynamism stands a lone figure gazing in the opposite direction. Several decades ago Antonioni articulated something important about the human condition by dissolving people in landscapes dominated by sterile buildings, machines, cars, people in pretty clothes and fake smiles. It was clear from that perspective that the mystery of our discontent was mostly of our own devising. In this current view we can see that larger, more mysterious forces are at work, and that nothing has ever been quite that simple. ▼

Beyond the Clouds plays December 10-16 at the Roxie Cinema.

Dark genius

'Darkness Visible: The Films of Anthony Mann and John Alton' at YBC

by Gary Morris

Of all the classic Hollywood genres, film noir seems to have the longest shelf life. Musicals are not exactly *au courant* as the century staggers to a close, nor are Westerns. But noir is so enduring that it inspires new books with every season, revivals that attract even jaded modern audiences, and its own subgenre: neo-noir.

Indeed, who can resist noir's classic images of everyday Joes lured into a life of crime by financial or romantic desperation, or mistaken for a criminal, and hounded to death by implacable fate in the form of a vicious femme fatale, a turncoat best friend, or the police? Noir was the perfect tonic to tedious postwar optimism, crisp conformity, and the distressingly phony images of a monolithic happy working class.

Like any genre, noir has its superstars, and two of them collaborated on a string of highly influential works in the late '40s. Director Anthony Mann and cinematographer John Alton (whose roots were in German expressionism) made six films together that expanded the artistic possibilities of the genre.

The first double bill, *T-Men* and *Raw Deal*, is unfortunately past, but not to worry; the second is equally impressive. It begins with a pitiless policier, *He Walked by Night* (1948), starring Richard Basehart as a killer almost entirely devoid of human impulses. He predicts all those murderous cyborgs in '70s and '80s sci-fi movies in his robotic demeanor and almost programmatic drive to kill. In one of the film's more grueling scenes he slowly, agonizingly extracts a bullet from his own flesh. The big set-piece here is a spectacular shadow-drenched chase through the actual sewers of Los Angeles, a picture-perfect locale for Basehart's well-deserved end.

Basehart plays a conniving Robespierre in the next film, a heady generic grafting of noir and costume drama. In *Reign of Terror* (aka *The Black Book*), Arlene Dahl makes a fetching heroine, and the story — set against the backdrop of the French Revolution — is consistently intriguing, but the real star here is Alton's lighting



A scene from *He Walked By Night*

and camerawork. The visuals approach the operatic: whole scenes lit by a single candle; dizzyingly low and high angles; dramatic forced perspectives that feature both floor and ceiling in a shot; and wide-angle lenses that wildly distort faces shown in overpowering close-ups. Claustrophobia never looked so good. Fruity dialogue such as Robespierre's petulant shriek, "Don't call me Max!" adds camp value.

Far more sober, and more timely, is Mann and Alton's next work, *Border Incident* (1949), starring the gorgeous pre-Cordoba Ricardo Montalban as a government agent who goes undercover to track down a bracero-smuggling ring. Fans of soap opera will swoon over his co-star, James Mitchell (*All My Children*), who plays a dim but almost indecently sexy Mexican. Mann was big on male-on-male sadism, and this film features one of his most evil sequences, when a wounded, blubbering agent played by George Murphy is slowly hacked up by the giant blades of a cultivator. (Sadly, Murphy would survive in real life to become the right-wing governor of California.) Also on this bill is a film that showcases Mann's grim world view and Alton's high style. *Devil's Doorway* is a Western noir with a political message. Robert Taylor plays a Native American whose sacrifices to his country during wartime are met with land seizure and ostracism. In spite of much of the setting being outdoors, this is classic noir, as dark in its vision and visual style as any of its urban

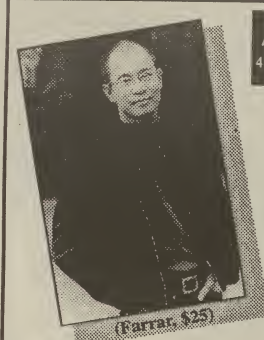
counterparts. ▼

The *Darkness Visible* series continues Friday nights, Dec. 10 & 17, 8 p.m. in the Screening Room at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. Call 978-ARTS.

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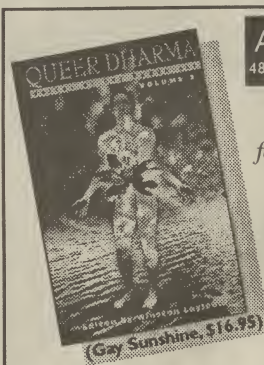
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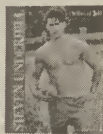
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Is that your final answer?

by Victoria A. Brownworth

November sweeps are over, leaving in their wake reruns, cancellations, Christmas specials and bloodsports, notably football, ice hockey, finding a date for Gary Coleman and election 2000 mania.

Bitch, bitch, bitch — or in honor of Hanukkah, *kvetch*, *kvetch*, *kvetch*. What a mean-spirited week on the tube! First, Kevin Williamson's queerish angst-fest *Wasteland* got the ax after that millionaire game show bumped it into short-term memory loss hell a few weeks running. Then, political nastiness in abundance suggested the Grinch arrived early, mistaking the Beltway for Whoville. It took a New York nanosecond from the time Hillary Rodham Clinton announced her senate bid post-Thanksgiving till the mud-slinging began. We haven't seen so much filth flung since *Sable* left the WWO.

Gail Sheehy's unauthorized bio of Mrs. Prez hit the superstores while Sheehy hit the tube. In an interview with *Dateline's* Stone Phillips, her restrained demeanor belied the glint in her eye as she related the tawdry tale of Clinton's revelation to Hillary that he indeed was having an affair with Monica Lewinsky. According to Sheehy, who heard it from someone *this close* to Hillary, the First Femme got violent with Bubba Dearest, smacking him, calling him names and repeatedly telling him how incredibly stupid he was. (A good dry run for dealing with the impeachment process.)

Sheehy claims Hillary didn't speak to Bill for eight months (about half the time he was doing Lewinsky). What broke the ice? Kosovo. Hillary called Bill from abroad and told him to start bombing. No way in the century that brought us the Holocaust, said Hillary, could the US sit back and watch a reprise. Not on her watch. Ah, politics.

We have always thought

Hillary was primo dominatrix material, but we were somewhat disturbed by the salacious manner in which the demure Sheehy recounted her various tales. Did she actually interview the Big H? Not exactly. Sheehy's been hanging out on Air Force One and other venues where the First Femme can be found. Oh, and she interviewed about 400 people

with things to say about Her Hillaryness. Like her first boyfriend, who says they did it together — inhaled, that is. Well, Nancy Reagan had Kitty Kelley; at least Hillary got a better class of hatchet job.

Meanwhile, as Sheehy told all to the tabloid news programs, Barbara Walters christened Monica Lewinsky one of 1999's ten most fascinating people (oh please — sometimes a cigar is just a cigar). What did Monica have to tell Baba Wawa this time around? She's lost about 20 pounds (but is still wearing basic black), she's looking for "a straight (yes, we heard about Bill's angle problem, too), emotionally available" man (take a number, honey), and she's designing handbags (so next time she can go to hell in her own handbag?) that sell for \$150 — and by the looks of them, Quentin Crisp died none too soon.

Bushwhacking

Just as the Hillary/Monica reprise had us reaching for our Excedrin and St. John's Wort cocktail, the GOP forum hit New Hampshire, much like a reprise of the Hindenburg hitting Lakehurst, New Jersey. Baby Bush (George Jr.) quipped as he entered the debate hall that he had studied up and now knew the names of heads of state around the world (move over, Henry Kissinger!). But the pop quiz never happened, and George Boy didn't fare so well in the klieg lights of height-

ened scrutiny. The scene looked a little like the Republican version of *Lord of the Flies*. Our money's on Sen. John McCain — who added his own witticisms, commenting that he would slug the next person who claimed he had a hair-trigger temper. Meanwhile, Steve Forbes has taken a lesson from Torquemada — he hammered at Bush Baby on taxes until we feared he'd make

Georgie Porgie cry. The rest of the Republican lineup — Orrin Hatch, Gary Bauer and Alan Keyes — looked like junior inquisitors heating

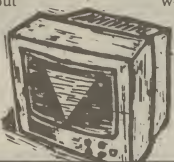
the branding irons. This religious right triumvirate is so scary they make Pat Buchanan look like Pokemon. Be afraid, be very afraid.

Meanwhile, the Bushman also cameth to *Meet the Press* last week, pontificating, prognosticating and pissing us off. We want to know how the Log Cabinettes will endorse Bush now that he's on record stating unequivocally that marriage is for men and women *only* (you know, Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve) while adoption is for God-fearing straight folks *only*. (Would that include those who snorted much of their blind trust in the '80s?)

As for gays in the military, Ixnay, Bush says. Though (or maybe because) he spent his Vietnam tour stateside, he thinks this is bad for morale. Which we find intriguing, since McCain, who spent more time as a prisoner of war than Bush spent pushing pencils, thinks queers in the military is an okay concept.

From the ridiculous to the slime, John and Patsy Ramsey were also in reprise this week, touting their new book, new movie and new libel suit on the morning news shows *Extra* and *Access Hollywood*. Inexplicably, like a certain football hero turned

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Lavender Tube

MEMENTO MORI

Remembering Madeline Kahn

by Victoria A. Brownworth

The incomparable Madeline Kahn died December 3 at the age of 57 after a battle with ovarian cancer. Kahn, who had been struggling with the disease for the past year, had announced her illness last month. At that time Kahn said of the cancer, which is nearly always fatal because it is discovered so late and spreads quite virulently, "It is my hope that I might raise awareness of this awful disease and hasten the day that an effective test can be discovered to give women a fighting chance to catch this cancer in its earliest stage."

Kahn's illustrious career spanned more than three decades and encompassed theatre, film and television. Trained as an opera singer, Kahn frequently sang in her roles, sometimes seriously, as in her 1965 Broadway debut in Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Kiss Me, Kate*, other times with a marvelous and quixotic humor, as in a series of films by Mel Brooks.

A fabulous wit with an absolutely deadpan delivery, Kahn made her feature film debut in 1972 as Ryan O'Neal's obsessive-compulsive fiancée Eunice in the Peter Bogdanovich Keystone Kops-style comedy *What's Up, Doc?*, which also starred Barbra Streisand. One of her most hilarious roles, Kahn's performance caught the eye of director Mel Brooks, who later starred her in six of his films, including his three best, *Blazing Saddles*, *Young Frankenstein* and *High Anxiety*. Kahn received a Best Supporting Actress Oscar nomination (she lost to Ingrid Bergman) for her role as a saloon singer in *Saddles*, but it was her portrayal of Victor Frankenstein's fiancée — and later wife of his creation, The Monster — that remains one of her most memorable roles.

A total camp classic, *Young Frankenstein* parodies the whole Frankenstein film genre to perfection. As Frankenstein's fiancée, Kahn is fussy and frigid, saving herself for marriage. In one scene, the good Doctor tries to kiss her, and she keeps him at arm's length, noting of her dress, "Taffeta, darling, taffeta." In another scene, as he once again attempts to kiss her, she chides him, "No tongues." When she is accosted and seduced by the errant Monster, however, at the appropriate moment she begins to sing, "Oh, sweet mystery of life at last I've found you."

Pretty monstrous

Her marvelous sense of comic timing made her a regular host of *Saturday Night Live* in its heyday, where her comic bits were legendary, including one in which, as the Bride of Frankenstein (à la Elsa Lanchester), she sits up on the table, looks around and breaks into song, singing "I Feel Pretty" from *West Side Story*.

That superb comedic timing also garnered her another Best Supporting Actress Oscar nomination for her role as Trixie Delight

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In *High Anxiety* (1977)

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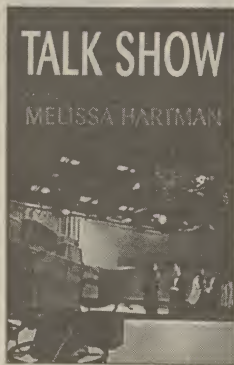
BOOKS

Life in the fishbowl

by Deborah Peifer

Melissa Hartman's *Talk Show* (New Victoria, \$10.95) is a fascinating look at the business of television and the dark side of fame. Consider, of all the rough possibilities in the matter of parental units, being the child of someone both famous and outrageous. Add to those death by overdose (accidental or deliberate, the coroner doesn't know) and a maternal style that includes intense closeness alternating with distance bordering on indifference, and you have the story of Nita Wilde, daughter of rock superstar Gina Wilde (think Janis Joplin, but less stable), who is trying to find a way to get her life together, to move on from both her mother's death and her mother's fame. Enter Jane Wilde, Nita's aunt, who has some prominence problems of her own, which she likes to work out on her TV talk show. Jane is convinced that exploring the way the tabloids trashed her sister will help Nita deal with her own stuff, especially if Nita works on the show herself.

Hartman does a fine job showing us the grit and the grunt work involved in putting on a talk show. She captures the misery of



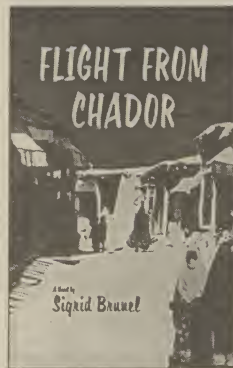
living in a fish bowl with painful accuracy. It's one thing, after all, to choose a life of celebrity; it's another altogether to have such a life thrust upon you by your mother's predilections. The characters in *Talk Show*, minor and major, are well-developed and extremely interesting. The love stories, and there are several, are fully integrated into the plot, and work to move the action along, rather than merely to spice up the proceedings. *Talk Show* is a fine

novel, well worth your time and treasure.

Chador madness

The same cannot be said, alas, for *Flight from Chador* (New Victoria, \$10.95), a novel that purports to be suspenseful and romantic but is, in fact, neither. Ever since I slogged through this book, I've been trying to decide just what made it so dreary. Flatness is what I came up with, of tone, of language, of character, of plot. Tension requires risk and uncertainty, and a novel in which there is no possibility that the heroes will not win in the end is simply not suspenseful. It ought to have been, given a plot that includes rescuing a woman in Yemen who had been kidnapped by her father, and forced to marry an older man. Trapped in a country where women have no rights whatever, Silke's only hope is that her German mother will be able to find someone to help her escape.

The someone is the dashing Anouk, a charter pilot from Ethiopia, whose sexual orientation is lesbian, but whose partners of choice are prostitutes. At least that's the case until the beautiful American Karen arrives in Addis Ababa, and they immediately fall in love. Karen, veiled, and Anouk, disguised as a man, sneak into Yemen, to plan the escape. At no point was any of this plot compelling, scary, sexy, or in-



teresting in any way. If it's as easy to rescue trapped Muslim women as it seems to be in *Flight from Chador*, surely there could be none left anywhere. As for the sexy subplot, forget about it. These women are as lifeless as inflatable plastic dolls, and considerably less amusing. Do yourself a favor, and escape from this dismal excuse for a novel.

Meanwhile, in the real world...

I'm certain you know about the horrors being visited upon the women of Afghanistan by the Taliban. Women are forced to cover themselves completely in the all-encompassing burka, with even their eyes concealed by a screen. Women are not allowed to have jobs, or to leave home except in the company of an adult male relative. And if a woman doesn't have a male relative, she's out of luck. The windows of the houses containing women or girls are painted black so that no one can see in, and of course, so they can-

not see out. Imagine being trapped in such a place, unable to see the sun, or to feel fresh air on your face. Education is forbidden, medical care impossible to obtain.

In the midst of this inhumanity, at the risk of their very lives, courageous women in Afghanistan are teaching young girls how to read and write, setting up home schools to offer at least minimal education and hope to girls who would otherwise grow up illiterate and in despair. The bravery and devotion of these women is astonishing. The American Jewish World Service is helping out with funds and supplies and the all-important contact with the outside world. Now, I'm not asking you to drop behind enemy lines with a bag of reading textbooks. I am, however, suggesting that if you have a spare bit of cash, supporting these girls and their teachers would be a worthy way to spend that money. You can send a check to American Jewish World Service, 989 Avenue of the Americas, New York NY 10018. Be sure to earmark the money for Afghanistan women. You can also make a contribution online at AJWS.org, where you can also read about the disaster. Consider the fact that you are allowed to sit in the sunlight and read this newspaper; and dig deep, please. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to peiferd@aol.com, or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

Lavender Tube

◀ previous page

wife-beater, these two remain unindicted co-conspirators while their poor murdered child parades through eternity in bad drag.

Thrills 'n' chills

Speaking of tortured souls, Michael Jackson also resurfaced this week (having missed Halloween entirely, but we know how time can get away from one in those hyperbaric chambers) when his music video, *Thriller*, won the best music video of all time award from MTV and *TV Guide*. In a rare interview, Jackson admitted he'd had plastic surgery (were we shocked!), outed Elvis (according to Jackson, Lisa Marie told him Elvis also had a nose job, though with a scalpel, not a truncheon), said the only thing keeping him from suicide is "the children" — his own and his work with underprivileged kids worldwide. No comment. As for the rumors that he and ex-wife Debbie didn't provide the actual genetic material for their children, Jackson says that's a lie. (To which we gently add, isn't that what he used to say about the plastic surgery?) Jackson told *TV Guide* he'd like to have ten children. (To which we gently add, haven't you had at least that many already?)

Speaking of children, Hollywood's only out dyke mom, Melissa Etheridge, appeared on the *Tonight Show* sporting her new short and sassy 'do but unfortunately the same ill-fitting leather pants. Etheridge revealed to Jay Leno that she watches the weather channel avidly (because Los Angeles weather is sooo unpredictable) and loves the women, some of whom she believes are stars waiting to be discovered. (Memo to Julie Cypher: disconnect the cable or stop having babies.)

Our queer moment of the week was the Christmas Parade in Hollywood, featured on *Access Hollywood* (what else?). Parade Master David Arquette (all the real stars were taken?) rode the route with his brother, Alexis (remember when that was a girl's name? Oh, right, it still is.). Did we mention Alexis was in full drag, replete with long platinum blonde wig? When asked who "she" was, Alexis replied, "Hi, I'm Courtney Cox" (David's real-life wife). Yes, dear, of course you are. Welcome to family values, Hollywood style. Living mi vida loco...

Finally, our quote of the week came from Sting on *Conan O'Brien* Friday night. O'Brien asked, "Is there a song or singer who makes you cry?" To which Sting replied: "Every time I hear Britney Spears, I cry." Ooooh. Hit me baby, one more time. ▼

Madeline Kahn

◀ previous page

in Peter Bogdanovich's *Paper Moon*, which also starred Ryan O'Neal and Tatum O'Neal, who beat Kahn out for the Oscar, becoming the youngest Oscar winner in Academy Award history.

A star of over 20 films, including a role in Oliver Stone's 1995 *Nixon*, in recent years Kahn divided her time between television and theatre. She co-starred with Mary Tyler Moore in the excellent but ill-fated drama series *New York News*, and played Phyllicia Rashad's best friend Pauline on

the CBS sitcom *Cosby*. In the course of her 34-year theatre career, she garnered several nominations and won three Tony awards, including Best Actress in 1993 for her role as Gorgeous Teitlebaum in the Wendy Wasserstein play *The Sisters Rosensweig*.

With her amazing range of abilities as songstress, comedienne and dramatic actress, Kahn's was an extraordinary talent — she never failed to enchant her audiences, and her performances have been extraordinarily memorable. On hearing of her death, Mel Brooks said simply, "She is one of the most talented people who ever lived." ▼

Babe in swaddling clothes

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Fando & Lis

◀ Arts cover

ing the new medium. Laserdiscs were poorly promoted, and they were large and costly. DVD software is the size of a compact disc and only slightly higher priced than tape. There are some 5,000 titles available, and virtually everything worth repeated viewing is being released in the new format.

Of course, that doesn't account for the capricious nature of most studios or big production companies. Seeing *The Blue Lagoon* in a choice of widescreen or pan & scan does seem like overkill, but what would you give for a pristine digital rendering of your favorite movie classic that included out takes, alternate endings and a running commentary by the director?

In San Francisco, Francis Ford Coppola's American Zoetrope provides production facilities for DVD transfers and mastering. Taking advantage of the studio's equipment and forging ahead in pioneer territory, a likable trio of unlikely entrepreneurs, who call themselves Fantoma, has just released their first title, and it should be a benchmark for the rest of the industry.

James Healey, Ian Hendrie and Derrick Scocchera are the owner/

operators of Laser Cinema, a Noe Valley video store (formerly in the Castro) with a huge selection of rare and popular laserdiscs and DVDs for sale or rent. Their Fantoma label, taken from an Esperanto word that makes obscure reference to an equally obscure silent film series (*Les Vampyres*) shouldn't conjure images of pretentious film school nerds, however. These guys have tastes that range from Pasolini to *Police Squad*, and they just might succeed, because no one has told them that they can't.

Fantastic voyage

Casting about for their initial offering, Fantoma embarked on an intercontinental odyssey that culminated in the rediscovery of an amazing 30-year-old work by visionary director Alejandro Jodorowsky. Most film enthusiasts will have a vague regard for his most famous movies, *El Topo* or *Holy Mountain*, but few can recall his first feature, *Fando & Lis*. After an astonishing confluence of chance meetings, serendipitous discoveries, trips to Paris and just plain luck, Fantoma has fashioned a remarkable debut presentation.

The scandal surrounding the premiere of *Fando* at the Acapulco Film Festival in 1968 resulted in a riot that forced Jodorowsky to literally flee for his life. The fan-



During the filming of Alejandro Jodorowsky's *Fando & Lis*

fare accompanying the rediscovery of this seminal work has been tamer, but connoisseurs are picking up on the buzz, and a second pressing is already scheduled.

They say if you remember the '60s, you probably weren't there, but everyone knows it was a time of violent upheaval. Revered social institutions and conventions were up for grabs, and nowhere was this more apparent than in the arts. Even in the heart of a repressive Catholic country like Mexico, a rebel named Alejandro Jodorowsky started a career by outraging the establishment.

For three decades, Jodorowsky has remained a cult figure who has found varied expression in film, dance and literature. He is even known as one of the world's foremost interpreters of the Tarot.

Chilean by birth, with a Jewish father, the young iconoclast made his early fame in the bustling theater world of Mexico City. His stage events brought the attention of such artists as Marcel Marceau, for whom he devised some celebrated mime scenarios. Making

movies seemed a natural next step.

The first was *Fando & Lis*, shot on unauthorized locations with nothing but a one-page script and the director's memory of the original stage play. Jodorowsky's interest in everything from cartoons to science fiction, Jean Cocteau to the Luis Buñuel of *Un Chien Andalou*, is right up there on the screen. The result is a dizzying mix of surrealism, ham acting and cruel beauty.

Actually strapping himself to the cameraman, Jodorowsky forced his attractive young leads through a hellish landscape, where innocence is desired until it can be destroyed. On the commentary track, the director admits his early awe of Charles Laughton's deformity in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, saying he was "in love with the monster." For *Fando* and *Lis* (lovers, siblings, master/slave and the dualities of one soul), the world is that beloved monster.

Real drag

It is a fairly unrelieved vision.

The only really "happy" scene comes when a group of real drag queens are permitted to emerge from the shadows of Mexico City long enough to blissfully cavort about *Fando* and *Lis*, while they dress them in each other's clothes. Jodorowsky's gay production assistant found the sissies, and their silly sweetness offers a brief and touching respite from the inferno.

Jodorowsky was merely hoping for a VHS release. What he got is a digital tribute that presents his early work in the best possible light. The DVD includes a cleverly edited director's audio commentary; Louis Mouchet's absorbing feature length documentary, *La Constellation Jodorowsky*, with appearances by Peter Gabriel, Marcel Marceau and artist Jean "Moebius" Giraud; optional subtitles in several languages; and a reproduction of the film's original 8-page handbill.

Fando & Lis is no masterpiece, but it has aged remarkably well. The striking imagery is still bold and haunting. Savoring the accompanying documentary and Jodorowsky's amusing monologue (filled with platitudes and profundity) helps to put the film into a historical context. It is no surprise that the Mexican public wanted to lynch the director, for the movie is disturbing, even now. Fantoma and their production team have brilliantly restored a genuine artifact.

With *Fando* safely launched, Fantoma prepares to give German director Rainer Werner Fassbinder the same kind of respect and deluxe packaging, with a transfer of his unknown (at least in this country) melodrama *Whity*; itself a loose reinvention of Raoul Walsh's *Band of Angels*. There are other intriguing projects in negotiations with similarly important directors, and fascinating titles under consideration. Fantoma wouldn't be averse to giving the royal treatment to a good action-adventure, if it could pave the way for a future catalogue of "lost" treasures. The DVD bandwagon is getting ready to offer a pretty wild ride. ▼

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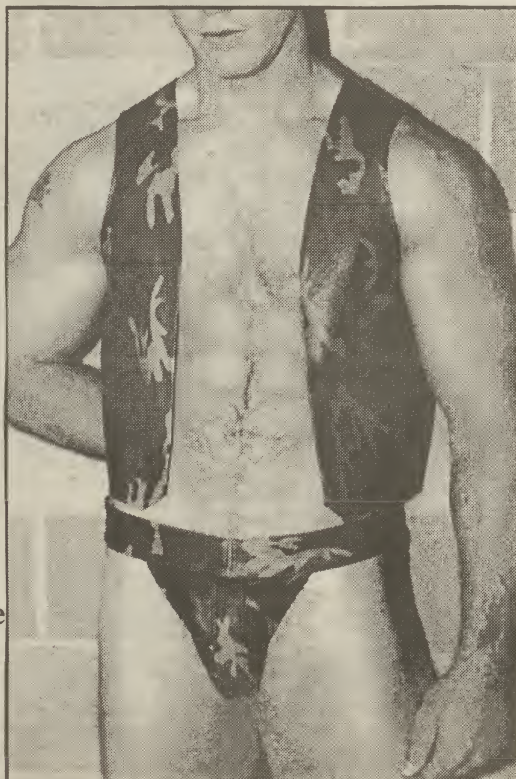
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Champagne

◀ Arts cover

swing-jazz band called the Magnum Brutes after a three-year run with the New Morty Show. But even as she played lounges in Las Vegas and gigs on cruise boats, Champagne found outlets for her queerer sensibilities.

She began reading up on Garland when she was cast as Neely O'Hara in a 1993 stage parody of *Valley of the Dolls*, playing the role inspired by Garland's pills-and-liquor problems. It wouldn't be the last time Champagne was the rare woman in a cast of drag queens. The actual Garland connection came about by accident, three years after she became a regular in the annual *Christmas with the Crawfords* shows. She started out playing Vikki Carr in the camp burlesques, and when the resident Judy moved on, she was asked to take over that role.

"I couldn't see it," Champagne said. "As you can see, I don't look anything like her."

Dressed down

Indeed, during an evening interview in her Castro apartment and shorn of wig, makeup, and costume, the barefoot, jeans-clad, and decidedly down-to-earth Champagne is unrecognizable from the glamorous woman who had commanded the stage the day before at Piaf's.

But even without the full-press makeup and costumes of the current show, when Champagne first sang in a quavering voice "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" in *Christmas with the Crawfords*, audiences bought right into the conceit. Ever since then, Champagne has been devouring the Garland biographies, and most recently found many helpful insights in Lorna Luft's *Me and My Shadows*.

Champagne will get to sing for Garland's youngest daughter on Dec. 17 at the Castro Theatre when Luft appears on a program that includes a screening of *Meet Me in St. Louis*. "It's scary," Champagne said of the prospect of doing her Judy in front of Lorna, "but I would never do anything disrespectful."

To find anything disrespectful in Champagne's show at Piaf's, you need to read between the lines, and even then, any suggestions of a troubled life are only subliminal. "You never saw that on stage," Champagne said. "She could be a monster off-stage — chemicals will do that — but she could cut through all that once the music started. And when it did, she so completely understood the story in the song."

As a performer who embraced the punk scene when it was new, Champagne has seen her share of chemicals. It's a quieter life that she favors now, as she and husband Damian Monzillo look toward parenthood. Champagne almost sounded apologetic that her housekeeping situation seems so heterosexual. "We're all part of a united queer community," she said. "I earned my pink triangle long ago."

It started back in Roseville, Calif., where Champagne had two mommies but didn't know it. Her mother shared a bedroom with an "aunt," but it wasn't until another kid in high school said, "You're mom's a dyke" that the pieces began coming together.

"I did have a sense that my life was not like everyone else's," she said, and despite her own attraction to boys, she preferred hanging out with gay men and drag queens. "I think there is a queer sense of humor and a straight



Connie Champagne as Judy Garland

sense of humor, and I found who my people are."

Bar story

The late drag icon Doris Fish became an early mentor after Champagne arrived in San Francisco, and Fish encouraged the woman born Kelley Brock to forever be known as Connie Champagne. Champagne met her hairdresser husband of four years in a gay bar, where he was tending bar, after a friend described this hunk who looked like a cross between Johnny Depp and Keanu Reeves. "One of the nicest things Damian said to me is that he would have fallen in love with me no matter what gender I was."

By day, Champagne works as the speakers bureau coordinator at Community United Against Violence, the organization that fights violence in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities. Champagne started as a volunteer at CUAV and went on staff after she was bounced out of the New Morty Show.

"I was fired for insubordination," she said. "It was traumatic, but it ended up being a great thing. I would never have been able to do the Judy Garland show if I was still with a touring band."

Champagne's professional dreams are modest ones. A new CD, a concert at Herbst Theatre, and a one-woman show at the Yerba Buena Center are among her near-term goals. A gig at the Algonquin in New York tops her fantasy résumé.

After graduating from college with a drama degree from Mills College in Oakland, and doing her graduate studies at the American Conservatory Theatre, she did head to Hollywood for a shot at the big time. But it was a miserable period.

She returned to San Francisco in 1987 for a role in *The Rocky Horror Show*, and she said now only the high rents could drive her out of the city. "I want to do good work and do it for appreciative audiences," Champagne said. "I never had an overwhelming ambition, and I definitely don't have a tough skin."

When Cynthia Robins had a throwaway line in her *Examiner* column about "Connie Cham-

pagne doing her Judy Garland shtick," Champagne was hurt and angry. "I was like, 'Fuck you, I don't do shtick,' so you can imagine how I'd take real criticism."

Champagne has thought about taking her Judy Garland to New York, but she can imagine the reviews: "Why is a real woman doing a Judy Garland show?" In San Francisco, at least, Champagne knows she can always share her inner drag queen. ▼

A Judy Garland Christmas with Connie Champagne will have performances at Piaf's at 2 p.m. Sundays through Jan. 2 and at 9:30 p.m. on Dec. 18. Tickets are \$35 for brunch and show and \$20 for show only. Call 864-3700.

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare by Mark Mardon



San Francisco glitz band Blue Period, clockwise from top left: Tommy Vaux, Swirly Rat Jr., Matt Chaikin, Adrian Roberts, PF

Glitter rock: back for good

Rock stars shouldn't have to put up their own fliers on telephone poles. That was my reaction last Saturday afternoon when I ran across **Blue Period**'s stellar bassist, Swirly Rat Jr., looking a bit bedraggled, his wild, flame-colored hair all tousled, as he posted bills down SoMa way, advertising the band's *Nightlife Casualties* CD release party coming up this Friday, December 10 at the Cat Club.

Just days before, in the basement of the CoCo Club, sandwiched among hard-core rock fans decked out in their glamiest attire, I had witnessed Blue Period belting out songs from the new album, and felt an almost chemical rush of excitement sweep through the crowd — and through every nerve in my body. The tight set and scorching energy of guitar, bass, drums, keyboard and vocals shot through us like white-hot nipple piercings; all present, most of us avid Blue Period fans, knew we were experiencing an event, the emergence of a new, vastly improved Blue Period, infinitely more polished and together since the release a year ago of *Product*, which drew only modest acclaim. *Nightlife Casualties* exists on a far higher plane, in the stratosphere of hard-rocking, lyrically and musically brilliant theme albums. This I say not because Adrian Roberts, the band's dynamic gender-morph lead singer, is my colleague at the *Bay Area Reporter*, where he serves as art director, but because the album stands on its own, gorgeously produced by Pansy Division's Chris Freeman and engineered by Thom Canova, featuring pop songs with punk sensibility, infused with a wicked sense of humor and a huge amount of musical and lyrical integrity, all addressing the perks, perils and pitfalls of fast-lane nightclubbing and the glitter life.

While the band has singled out "It's Over" as the album's most radio-friendly track — it's an upbeat, irony-tinged song about kissing a relationship goodbye — all the *Nightlife Casualties* songs kick butt. Bitterness and jaded attitudes abound in the lyrics, yet far from sounding tired and depressing, the songs convey a kind of drugged-out delight at everyone and everything being a complete mess.

The ultimate club-anthem comes in the title track, "Nightlife Casualty." Roberts' lyrics aptly reflect the grind of making the scene:

"You sashay into a crowded club, everyone knows who you are. And they all say, 'Oh, you look so fine. Let's go into a bathroom stall and do another line.' Closing time, the lights come on, you're coming down. Those friends you just made, they slip away. Go on home, crawl into bed. When the sun goes down, it starts all over again."

Nightlife Casualties marks the true second coming of glam rock. It's no mere imitation of Bowie and other earlier purveyors of glitter sensibilities; though glitter references pervade the lyrics, and actual glitter flies everywhere during live performances, Blue Period's take on the scene is wholly contemporary, looking squarely at what's happening in clubland these days, and commenting on it with deft cynicism, simultaneously glorifying in and skewering retro glam styles. While each of the album's ten tracks remarks upon and bows to the era of Ziggy Stardust, they're influenced more by the tenor of these times, when everything and everyone seems to be speeding, heading for a certain collision, yet bound and determined to grab the nose-ring of fame and fortune before the crash. ▼

Blue Period's CD release party for *Nightlife Casualties* takes place this Friday, December 10, 10 pm at the Cat Club, 1190 Folsom (at 8th St.). \$5 cover. For more info, surf www.blue-period.com.

Fri

Metropolitan Community Church

"A Winter Choral Celebration," featuring the Lesbian and Gay Chorus of SF and the MCC Choir. Music from diverse traditions. \$10. 8pm. 150 Eureka St. Info: 861-7067.

SF Camerawork

Opening reception: "The Image After," focusing on what is left behind or sent ahead, curated by Luis Delgado and Jane Levy Reed. Three artists — Torben Eskerod of Denmark, Joan Fontcuberta of Spain, and Silvio Wolf of Italy — "further our quest for eternity." Free. 5:30-8pm. 115 Natoma St. 764-1001.

Goat Hall

"Amahl and the Night Visitors," a one-act opera in English by Gian Carlo Menotti, about a miraculous meeting between a poor boy who cannot walk and Three Kings following the star to the Christ child. \$15 (\$12 students/seniors; \$8 under 12). 8pm. Weekends thru Dec. 19. 400 Missouri St. (at 19th St.). 289-6877.

Noh Space

Theater of Yugen presents "Noh Christmas Carol '99," set among Japan's snow-capped mountains, wherein dwells Sukurooji Ebizu (Ebenezer Scrooge). A sumptuous production fusing the Victorian age with a Japanese ghost story. Vivid scenes illustrated in the Japanese theatrical forms of Kabuki, Noh, Kyogen and Butoh. Directed and re-adapted by Miko Lee and Michael Edo Keane. \$20 (\$12 youth). Thru Dec. 23. 2840 Mariposa St. at Project Artaud (btwn. Florida & Alameda sts.). 621-7978.

174 King St.

Sundance Saloon presents its holiday ball and toy drive, with country-western music by the Barbary Coast Cloggers and vocalist Charlie Pacheco. Dance lessons 6-7:30pm; open country-western dancing 7:30-11pm. \$8 (half price with new, unwrapped toy). Info: 699-5764.

Sat

Harvey Milk Institute

Workshops: "Origami," with Iris Sandkühler (\$25 + \$5 materials; 10am-2pm); "Origami for Youth," with Iris Sandkühler (free; youth 23 & under only; 2-5pm); and "The Magic of Improvisation: Intensive Workshop" with Karen Ripley (\$30; noon-4pm). Held at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th St. Info/registration: 552-7200.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Opening night: "Who's Afraid of Edward Albee," by Michael Kearns, directed by Arturo Caticala. It looks behind the scenes at an LA acting troupe premiering the first all-male version of Albee's classic play, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" \$13-\$22. 8pm. Thru Jan. 22. 25 Van Ness Ave. Tix: 861-8972.

ATA Gallery

Other Cinema presents Kurt Keppeler's "Metalman" (45 min.) as the featured segment of a 16mm program on the surgical invasion of the body. Other films include Jay Capela's "Excitable Cortex" (10 min.), about the manipulation of the music-recognition region of the brain. \$5. 8:30pm. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St. 824-3890.

SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for an urban peaks and canyon hike, and enjoy a good workout and killer views of our beautiful city. It's a strenuous seven-mile hike with considerable ascents and descents along the trail. Meet 9am at the corner of Harvey Milk Plaza, Castro at Market. Club info: 487-6410.

Grace Cathedral

"Christmas at Grace Cathedral," featuring the Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys with Orchestra, plus the Gothic cathedral's world renowned Æolin Skinner Organ with its 7,246 pipes. Traditional and new carols. \$12 gen'l adm.; \$20, \$30, \$50 reserved. 4pm (7pm Fri., Dec. 17). Thru Sun., Dec. 19. 1100 California St. (top of Nob Hill). Tix/info: 749-6350.

Grupo Socio Cultural Hispano

"Fiesta de Navidad," this social group's Christmas potluck party for all Spanish-speaking Bay Area gay men and their friends. Meet in a private home in the Upper Market district. Info: call Juan Carlos at 863-7087.

SF Main Library

Emily Dickinson Among Friends: A Birthday Celebration," featuring talks by Ellen Louise Hart (describing the editorial and collaborative role played by Dickinson's "beloved" sister-in-law Susan) and Aife Murray (describing how Dickinson's servants influenced her vocation and writing). Introduction by Jewelle Gomez. Free. 2-4pm. 100 Larkin St., Koret Auditorium. Info: 557-4400.

Cell Space

SF IndieFest (to be held Jan. 6-14, 2000) hosts a benefit for itself, featuring glitter-art-pop band Blue Period, with DJ Shindog (New Wave City) and Mambo. Stormy Leather presents a fetish fashion show. Highlights from last year's fest screen all night. Food donated by Rainbow Grocery, beverages by Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. \$10 donation. Tix at the door or through TicketMaster: 421-TIXS.

Intimate Rabbits, recycled flatware, by Briana Kaufman, part of the KPFA Community Crafts Fair at The Concourse. See Saturday.



ers discuss their work and sign books. KPFA staff, Media Alliance, and free-speech activists discuss resistance to increasing corporate control of the media and the arts. \$6 (\$4 seniors/disabled). Free bike security by SF Bike Coalition. 10am-7pm. Also on Sun., Dec. 12. 8th & Brannan sts. Info: (510) 848-6767, ext. 611.

St. Ignatius Church

"A Chanticleer Christmas," featuring the acclaimed male vocal ensemble blending medieval and Renaissance sacred music with traditional carols, directed by Joseph Jennings. \$21-\$32. 8pm. Also Dec. 19 at 7pm, 650 Park St. Tix: City Box Office, 392-4400.

Derek Silva Community

Opening reception: Holiday arts and crafts show and sale by and for people affected by AIDS. Sponsored by the Calif. Arts Council, Catholic Charities, Positive Art, and Visual Aid. Noon-5pm. Sale continues thru Dec. 18. 1594 Market (at Franklin).

A Different Light

April Sinclair reads from *I Left My Back Door Open*, about Daphne "Dee Dee" Dupree, a black radio DJ who helps her friend's daughter cope with the friend's lesbianism. Free. 3:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

The Concourse

KPFA Community Crafts Fair, with 225 craftsmakers offering their own works, plus screenings all day of new documentary films by local filmmakers displaying their craft. Tasty foods, flute music, and tea tastings in a beautiful Himalayan tent. Bay Area writ-

Paradise Lounge

Rock out with the bands "Ing," Don't Mean Maybe, Oxygen and Seven. First 50 fans receive limited-edition "Ing" CD featuring live recordings from 1999 and new home studio demos. 308 11th St. (at Folsom). Info: 861-6906.

Sun

New Conservatory Theatre Center

"Wreaths for the Arts," a benefit auction and sale of holiday wreaths donated by actors Robin Williams, Julie Harris, Kevin Klein and Petula Clark, cabaret star Sharon McNight, SF Supervisors Alicia Becerra and Tom Ammianno, and Bay Area theatre critic Gene Price, among others. Proceeds go to the Theatre Center's new Tolerance Project for Teens. Complimentary champagne and light brunch. 11am-1pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. (at Market). Info: 861-4914.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

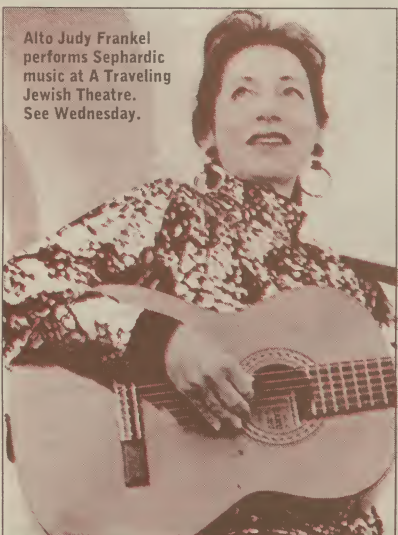
Arturo Caticala directs Truman Capote's "A Christmas Memory," a heartwarming tale of a seven-year-old boy and his older yet child-like cousin, both of whom come to realize the greatest gift is love. The story addresses issues of tolerance, homophobia, and hate crimes. Featuring Andy Goldin-Rothschild as young Buddy, Murphy Larson as the older cousin, and Billy Allen as older Buddy. \$10 (\$5 students). 2pm. Also Dec. 13 & 14 at 8pm and Dec. 18 at 2pm. 25 Van Ness Ave. Tix: 861-8972.

PFLAG/St. Francis Church

Mitzi Henderson and members of Peninsula PFLAG share the results of information they've gathered to combat the Knight Initiative. Preceded by a support group 2-3pm. Free. 3-4pm. 152 Church St. (at Market). 921-8850.

Dignity/SF

"7th Annual Feast of Our



Alto Judy Frankel performs Sephardic music at A Traveling Jewish Theatre. See Wednesday.

Lady of Guadalupe: Celebracion, Cena y Cultura. A bilingual mass, Mexican tamale dinner, and Latina/o cultural arts show. Presented by the People of Color Support Group of Dignity/SF, a faith community of GLBT Catholics, their families, and friends. 5:30pm. 1329 7th Ave (at Irving). Info: 554-8436.

Davies Symphony Hall
Movie actress Sharon Stone joins conductor Alasdair Neale and the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra in two performances of Sergei Prokofiev's musical tale, "Peter and the Wolf." Plus an audience sing-along of holiday carols. \$10-\$38. 1pm & 4pm. Tix: 864-6000.

Noe Valley Ministry
¡El Mundo! perform "Villancicos de Navidad," featuring works from Latin America and Spain, combining the rhythmic vitality of Spanish and indigenous cultures. Featuring Richard Savino (baroque guitar) Carla Moore (violin), and Lisa Grodin (violin). \$10 (\$5 students/seniors). 4pm. 1021 Sanchez St. Info: 333-9444.

The Plush Room

"Teddy Care," an entertainment and teddy-bear drive to benefit Shanti and children hospitalized at SF General Hospital during the holidays. Hosted by Willis Moore. Featuring GLAMA award-winning singer/songwriter Rick Jensen, Lina Koutarakos, Karen Mack, Danny Williams, Maye Cavallaro, and musical comedy team Drucker & Mayer. \$10 plus a new teddy bear. 7:30pm. 940 Sutter St. 885-2800.

CoCo Club

Opening reception: "Hell is For Children," a multimedia event of painting, performance, humor and music, featuring an exhibition of works by Vance Chatel. The babies in his paintings stand as tormented witnesses to the dark side of human behavior. With entertainment by comic Bridget Schwartz, actress Elizabeth Myrrdin, performance artists Sami Formo and Mr. David, and DJ Riley (Hole in the Wall/Eagle). \$5. 8pm-2am. 21+ . 139 8th St. (at Minna). Info: 863-1804.

A Different Light

Jennifer Terry reads from *An American Obsession*, examining how the century-old obsession with homosexuality is deeply tied to changing American anxieties about social and sexual order. Free. 3:30pm.

Club Marqui

T-dance for fashionably at-



Hell is For Children by Vance Chatel, an exhibition with entertainment at the CoCo Club. See Sunday.

tired gay women and men (no sneakers, tees, or jeans) • Featuring R&B, house, Latin, and disco tribute to Sylvester. Sushi bar and Asian fusion. Every third Sunday. 5-10pm. \$10. 520 4th St. (at Bryant).

New Meat Campus Theater

Klubstitute Kollektive presents the 5th annual Faux Queen Pageant (not to be confused with the recent 5th annual Virgin Queen Contest). For drag queens trapped in real women's bodies. Hosted by Ruby Toosday and Virgin Queen '98 Demanda Man. Celebrity judges include SF Supervisor Leslie Katz, sexologist Carol Queen, Drag King Barry White, Deena Davenport, Birdie Bobb Watt and Trauma Flintstone. Benefits Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services and the St. James Infirmary. \$5-\$25 sliding. 8:30pm. 220 Jones (at Turk). Info: 331-1500, ext. DIET.

Mon 13

Herbst Theatre

City Arts & Lectures present an evening with renowned poets Thom Gunn and Robert Pinsky. Gunn has chronicled San Francisco life since the mid-1950s, from the days of the Beat Generation through the AIDS era and beyond. Pinsky, the author of six influential books, is especially known for his powerful translation of Dante's *Inferno*. \$17. 8pm. 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: City Box Office, 392-4400.

Theatre Rhinoceros

Actor Robert Coffman reads Truman Capote's classic "A Christmas Memory." Reception follows. \$10. 7pm. 2925

16th St. Tix: 861-5079.

The Plush Room

Cocktail reception and holiday raffle benefiting Z Space Studio, with performance by the studio's New Music Theater Project, featuring Trauma Flintstone, Connie Doolan, Antoine Garth and Tanya Shaffer. Prizes include opera tix, hotel nights, diners, spa treatments, and more. Sponsored by the SFBA Publicity Club. \$25 (\$35 door) Pub Club members; \$30 (\$35 door) non-members. 6-8:30pm. The York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Info/RSVP: 437-4440.

Spectrum, San Anselmo

The Marin AIDS Projects hosts "Generation Gap," with guest presenter Kirk Read. Discuss intergenerational dating thrills and spills, how the dynamics between older and younger men can present specific benefits and challenges. Read is a 26 year old writer and organizer with many years experience dating men twice his age. Free. 7:30-9:30pm. Isabel Cook Community Center, 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., San Anselmo, Marin County. RSVP: Frank Strona, Man 2 Man Program Coordinator, (415) 457-2487, ext. 460.

Tue 14

Plush Room

"San Francisco Celebrates Noel Coward," a one-time-only gathering of stellar performers marking Coward's 100th birthday. A benefit for public radio station KALW (91.7 FM). Featuring Curt Brannom (Beach Blanket Babylon); Jake Heggie (SF Opera composer-in-residence); actor Craig Jessup; singer/actress Maureen McVerry; cellist/singer Emil Miland; pianist Peter Mintun; and singers Paula West, Wesla Whitfield (accompanied by Mike Greensill), and Faith Winthrop. \$100 (includes two-drink minimum and post-show party). 8pm. The Hotel York, 940 Sutter St. (btwn. Leavenworth & Hyde). Tix: 885-2800.

Intersection for the Arts

"Undertaking Harry," a performative reading and critical discussion with dancer, writer and choreographer Joe Good. In a meditation on gender in contemporary society, Goode will portray queer visionary and radical philosopher Harry Hay. \$5 donation. 8pm. 446 Valencia St. (btwn. 15th & 16th sts.) 626-2787.

Yerba Buena Center

SF Performances presents "Dance/Screen," a program of rare videos made by Russian television about two extraordinary dancers, Soloviev, a friend of Baryshnikov's and

an equally breathtaking dancer, who chose to stay in Russia, and Svetlana Zaharova, who first danced Giselle at the Kirov Ballet at the age of 17. \$6. 7pm. Screening Room, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. 978-ARTS.

Wed 15

Theatre Rhinoceros

Added performances: "Jay-walker," written and performed by Marga Gomez, directed by David Schweizer. Solo comedy tracing the surreal and illegal adventures of a Latina pedestrian in Hollywood, competing for fame against Jennifer Lopez and Chihuahua. \$15-\$20. 8pm. Thru. Sat., Dec. 18. 2926 16th St. Tix: 861-5079.

A Traveling Jewish Theatre

Alto Judy Frankel performs Sephardic music in the Ladino (Judeo-Spanish) language of the Sephardim — Jews expelled from Spain in 1492, who scattered to North Africa, Turkey, Greece and the Balkans. A combination of torch songs, folk melodies, and retellings of medieval legends. \$12. 8pm. 470 Florida St. Info: 399-1809.

Thu 16

The Swallow

Singer Valerie Quevedo entertains, accompanied by Larry O'Leno on piano. No cover. 9:30pm showtime. 1750 Polk St. (at Washington). Info: 775-4152.

City Nights

"Club Faith," dance venue featuring hip-hop, house, and progressive, sounds with resident DJs Blackstone, Jay-R, and Ruben Mancias plus weekly Guests. Friendly vibes for boys and girls in a mostly bi/gay crowd. If you have a closed mind this club will leave you behind. \$10. 9:30pm-3am. 18+ w/ID. 715 Harrison St.

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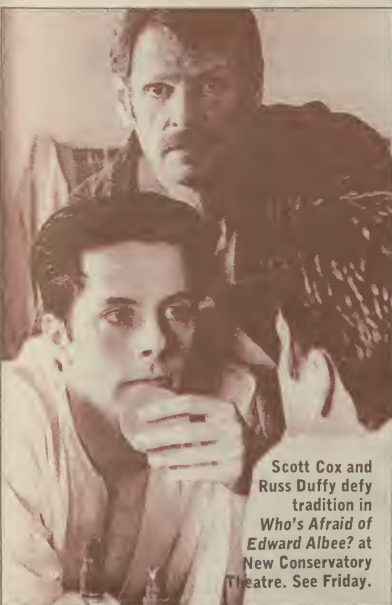
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Scott Cox and Russ Duffy defy tradition in *Who's Afraid of Edward Albee?* at New Conservatory Theatre. See Friday.

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Bound for the holidays

by Mister Marcus

The century's final Yule holiday season is upon us, and it started off with a big, loud bang for the leather community this past weekend. Parties galore loom on the horizon; everyone seems to be getting in the spirit of this, the final blowout of the century. It's not all fun and games; in this town, fundraising for worthy causes is the objective for most of the Christmas season events.

The leather presence was strong at Donna Sachet's two "Songs Of The Season" shows last Thursday and Friday nights, December 2 and 3 at the Oak St. Ballroom. Almost 20 individuals and groups performed their best holiday repertoires for this AIDS Emergency Fund benefit, and the show was extremely well produced.

Surprisingly, the acoustics were perfect in the cavernous Oak Street Ballroom, so everyone's vocal renditions came through loud and clear. La Sachet started out in a red dazzler of a gown, but switched midway through first to a smart black ensemble and wore a dazzling white gown for the finale. Both shows were well attended, and the raves were unanimous by everyone present.

Saturday night, Don "Ho" Tse and Omar Moseley staged their



Stevan DeCastro, right, Toronto Leatherman 2000, poses with Rich Tchorzewski, chosen as Mr. Leather Fellowship by all the other contestants in Toronto on Sat., Dec. 4.

fourth annual Christmas party with everyone who is anyone there to imbibe, schmooze, network and everything else appropriate for the occasion. In the process, some \$2,400 was raised and presented the next day, at the Leather Holiday Brunch at Harvey's, to Positive Resource. It was another big turnout, with even Jeff Hennes of Seattle down for the festivities. Bob Brunson and "Ernestine" received well-deserved Community Service Awards. Bob did a major job pushing the leather lifestyle up in Guerneville the past two years; now he's moving on, taking over as manager of Daddy's in Mid-January. As for Ernestine, well, what can I say? She's always in a positive mode, always out there working, always helping out, and now, alas, she's moving to Palm Springs! She's their gain, our loss. But as Gary Virginia said on-stage — she'll be back! Bravo to both.

Mr. San Francisco Leather Werner Tillinger and his, er, uh, squeeze Tony Bowser (arf!) were sporting some very spiffy leather uniform outfits and announced they are finally moving in together! It's nice that they are finally making it official. At the Leather Holiday Brunch, Emperor TJ and Empress Sheba were doing imperial duties in Las Vegas, but man-

aged to send a taped greeting to the assembled crowd. Now that's class! I know for sure now that I voted for the right people.

Werner's uniform benefit beer/soda bust at Daddy's garnered a big crowd and big bucks, say \$1,400 for the LA&M and the G/L Historical Society of Northern California, plus \$144 for the ICF.

Meanwhile, the Forum of SF Christmas Party at the Powerhouse (yes, they're open again) saw all the fraternal groups and their friends there to help usher in the season. Mario Torrigino has done a remarkable job in his leadership of the group, and for once, not one gripe was heard in the whole club population.

Here and there

At the DC Eagle each year, they give Animal Kingdom Awards where certain individuals are made honorary animals according to their personalities, proclivities and whatever. This past Saturday night, The Wicked Witch of the East, Vern Stewart (formerly of Our Town), was named Kangaroo Rat — mostly because of his underground activities and because he needs a pouch to carry soy sauce now that he's into Dim Sum! And on the hoof, no less. Also, eyebrows were lifted all over

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In the finale of her Songs of the Season Christmas show on Friday, Dec. 3, former Empress Donna Sachet abandoned her infamous red gowns for this stunning white outfit, perfect for singing "White Christmas."

Mister Marcus

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, December 9

"Ernestine" is moving to Palm Springs, so her last benefit here is tonight at Daddy's, with a \$7 beer/soda bust, prizes, and a farewell interlude.

Friday, December 10

"Silence Knight," a benefit for No on Knight Initiative at the Powerhouse, produced by BJ Cavnor and Eric Keith, from 2100-2300. \$3 cover, drink specials, porno stars, porn videos — what more could you ask for?

Saturday, December 11

ACLC presents their annual Santa's Slave Auction at the Turf Club in Hayward, starting at 2000, where you can bid on services provided by leather title holders. Don't miss this one!

Pegasus Motorcycle Owner's Club travels to the San Mateo Fairgrounds for the big motorcycle show, leaving from Castro Theatre at 0900.

Sunday, December 12

At Daddy's, Mr. San Francisco Leather Werner and Emperor TJ present "Reindeer Games" from 1600-1900, with entertainment by Sheba, Aimee Simplee McPhearson, elves, etc., plus 50/50 auc-

tion for dinner dates with BC calendar.

Sundance Saloon, more shit-kickin' action at 174 King St., from 1800 on. You know the routine: dance lessons and the rest. It's a holiday ball and toy drive, so bring a new unwrapped toy and pay \$4 instead of \$8. Barbary Coast Cloggers will perform.

Wednesday, December 15

Final Underwear Buddies at 933 Harrison. Clothes check mandatory. Have fun and say hi to Brad and gang.

Leathermen's Discussion Group, 1930 hours, at Club Eros. Free. Subject: "Making Toys," moderated by "Sarge" in his fiendishly clever way. Call 551-0871.

Daddy's Bar Christmas Party at 2000, with the Lollipop Guild, Donna Sachet, and some "surprises." Philip would not elaborate on the "surprises," so let me know!

Friday, December 17

Exiles of SF, sign-interpreted event At the Women's Bldg., \$3/members, \$5/guests. Fetish Diva Midori with Yves will turn you on. Call 487-5170.

PORN

Brock's cock

by John F. Karr

Off Limits is the latest video from raunchy star turned raunchy director Chip Daniels. He's got an especially fine cast, headed by Brock Masters, making his first appearance since Daniels' *Time Cops*, and this time getting the full-blown star treatment he deserves.

I think. The 1999 Adam Gay Video Directory lavished praise on Brock's chiseled body and jaunty attitude, but had to ask: Is he going to suck dick? Seems the ex-Marine Mr. Brock is one of those gay-for-pay boys, strictly a top. What will transpire?

After a short introduction we meet Jeremy Brooks. He's snooping in Brock's quarters, digging in his footlocker, sniffing his jock, and hiding in his closet when Brock enters to change clothes. Naked, Brock bends over the trunk to expose for our grateful voyeurism his overly ripe ass cheeks, below which dangle his loose moose balls. Poor Jeremy gets a woody. Then Officer Chip enters with a letter from Brock's Army buddy on duty in Prague. (I guess Chip was in Prague and had to find a way to use the footage he filmed there). "Looks like it might be a love letter, dude," Chip quips, making me feel the scriptwriter has taken some liberties with the idea of the Army as we've generally known it. The letter tells how Brock's friend was "shacked up with a group of Military hunks here in the Czech Republic that would knock your dick off."

And not a moment too soon — we're ten minutes into this movie and haven't seen any sex yet. Strangely, I wasn't too impatient, for I was totally entertained by the leering introductory tour of Brock's body, and even his dialogue scenes. His devil-may-care attitude informs the entire video, giving the talking scenes the quirky feel of improv. The sex is like that, too — spontaneous, yet exhibitionistic, and like Brock, truly pleased with its own sexiness.

We see the Czechoslovakian scene as Brock reads about it and begins to jack off. Now, the Czech dicks may be big and uncut (they belong to Czechs, after all), but they're upstaged by Brock's (cut) piece, which is a ponderous mass of broad proportions and implacable solidity. Its size and weight are cunningly set off by the transistor-size speck of pubic hair that sits atop this pole — not more than four hairs hacked as short as polka dots, and sitting as unnaturally high above the dick as an elephant's eye, an exclamation point popped over a piece of meat that is its own hurrah. It's the first

time, I believe, that a pinch of pubic hair has ever conveyed such an affective quality. It's certainly the Best Supporting Pubic Hair on a Featured Actor that I've seen in a long time.

The scene works us up quite effectively, but like several others with subsidiary performers, is interrupted by Officer Chip. After 22 minutes, *Off Limits* is becoming quite a cock tease. But we cut back to the Czechs, those typically flat-bellied, big-dicked, sandy-haired Czechs you've been seeing in so many movies, and they're fucking everyone nearby as sturdily as their standard-issue blank Czech personalities will allow. Which is to say, a lot, but rather in absentia.

Things are a little steamier at a mechanic's garage, where Brad Hunter crawls out from under a Jeep to crawl under Sargeant Brock. Hunter may not be quite the co-star Brock deserves, but gee, Brock has a good time plowing the boy's rump. We're used to seeing some mighty proficient porn stars these days. But it's infrequent that one of them actually enjoys himself in a big way, and that's what Brock Masters does.

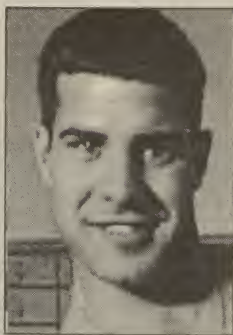
Regulation dildos

Meanwhile, Jeremy is snooping around Brock's office. And what does he find but exactly what Federal regulations insist fill the desk drawers of its commanding personnel: dildos. Jeremy goes to work right there, on the Sarge's desk. He's got a pert dick himself, with a smooth and tight nutsack, and a slightly fuller version of that five o'clock-shadow pubic hair that seems to be regulation cut in this particular Army. Jeremy's dildo is not improbably large. But he knows so well how to love his cock and work that dildo in his ass that it is sensation rather than size that makes this scene work so well. From a lot of perfect angles, and for a nice long time.

So Jeremy finally blows the big nut he's been storing up since the flic began. But he's discovered *en flagrante* by Brock, and the pair launch directly into an energetic coupling. Jeremy meets Brock on a true co-star level, giving excellent head and offering most receptive booty. His still-hard dick smears heavily into the dildo-induced cum on his belly.

Brock so clearly relishes Jeremy's never-ending boner and the deep grinding routine he's screwing up the boy's ass that the gay for pay question wasn't entering my mind. Will he suck cock? Not at least while fucking Jeremy in several positions, displaying skilled cocksmanhood along with his dazzling physique and infectious smile.

Then suddenly, we're back to



Brock Masters

those Czechs (good Lord, Jeremy's scene had made me forget all about the Czechs), as Brock shares his letter and an ensuing fuck with little Duncan Mills. It's yet another plump young white ass for Brock to plow, with some alarmingly rapid piston-popping action that made me shift in my seat. I did notice, however, that although they're nose to nose, Brock just misses kissing the boy.

Oh, yeah — the Czechs. They share orgasms all around, good comrades that they are. Then, for the finale, Brock and his boys go to an off-limits club at which they figure the MPs will never find them — a gay bar! They don't seem to have been paying attention to the preceding hour, or they'd realize that in this Army, a gay bar is the first place they'll be looked for. And they don't so much go to a gay bar as to its back room, where the handsome, nasty Peter Wilder is showing off his asshole proudly. Director Daniels captures the raunchy late-night mood of the ensuing quartet, with the accompaniment of martial drums. The rimming is succulent, the action is sleazy, and then the MP enters, and the boys are in the brig. The end.

Off Limits is way too cleverly put together. While Daniels' multi-layering of scenes is well done, it's simply unnecessary. Too many porn editors seem to be auditioning for music videos; this artsy showoff is just not an essential element of porno. Still, you can trust Chip Daniels to elicit from his cast his own fondly remembered, sleazy enjoyment of sexuality, which makes him an actual director, unlike a lot of guys with that title who make porn.

Brock doesn't suck any dick, nor rim nor even kiss anyone. And I didn't care. This is one of those issues, like whether Elizabeth Schwarzkopf was ever a Nazi, where artistry obscures a moral issue. And with a body like Brock's, with that cock and its couture, along with the man's happy sexuality, he's okay by me. As long as he doesn't sing, and Madam Schwarzkopf doesn't suck cock. Oops, maybe she does. Hope she's as happy having sex with boys as Brock Masters is. ▼

Here on the home front, Daddy's is offering a \$25 admission fee before 2200 hours on New Year's Eve, so get there early for the festivities, which include the usual champagne, party favors, a few free cocktails (with the VIP admission) and all the usual suspects.

Up at the Russian River, know that River Business Bar has been sold to Jake the Snake and Tall Tall Larry and will be re-named the Guerneville Eagle! They pledge it will remain a leather bar! Almost, but not all, Eagle bars here & overseas are leather oriented.

Leather Daddy André English and Daddy's Boy Lance Brittain announced that the results of

their month-long Leather Pantry 3 fundraisers during November for Project Open Hand totaled a whopping \$3,000, and they want to thank all of you who helped. Bravo!

The Mr. South Texas Leather contest was held in San Antonio, Texas over the weekend. The winner was Todd Crutchfield. On to Int'l. Mr. Leather in May, Todd!

Local leather-oriented bars are gearing up for Mr. SF Leather 2000. The Edge Bar will be looking for Mr. Edge Leather 2000 on February 9 and Mr. Daddy's Leather 2000 will be chosen on February 10. Are you "title" material for Int'l. Mr. Leather 2000? Think about it. ▼

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Mister Marcus

◀ page 52

this weekend to see former Empress Caresse out and about, causing speculation about a divorce.

Those of you familiar with the SM training academy "Butchmann's" in Palm Springs should know that it is temporarily closed, but will re-open expanded and with more amenities.

Elsewhere, Big Jim McGlade, owner of Washington, D.C.'s premiere leather store, The Leather Rack, announced the debut of their web site. Check it out by clicking on www.TheLeatherRack.com.

BAR TALK

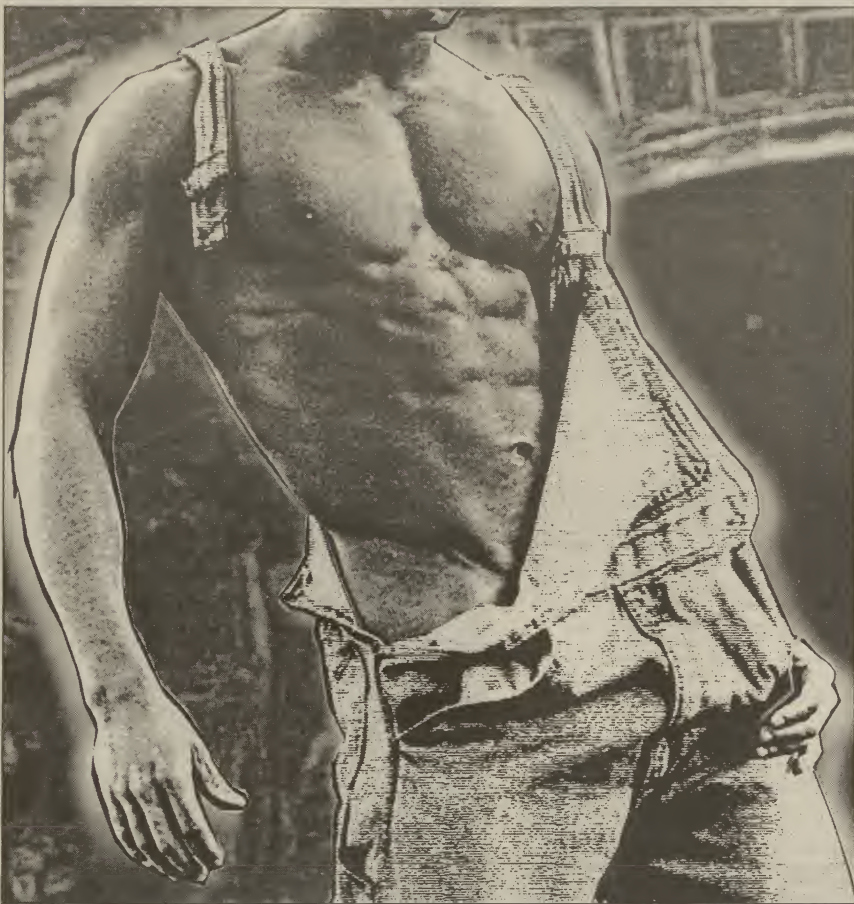


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PARTING GLANCES

Castro Barber Shop Tu 10/26
You getting head shave, me haircut next seat over - xchang glances, Date? ☎ 71004

Ken-We Met You On Sat. Oct 30
You called us on Wed. Nov 3. We got # wrong. Please call John & Steve. ☎ 71023

SFMOMA-Cremaster Video 10-24
You explained the finger points, can we continue the discussion over dinner? I'd love to see your smile again. ☎ 71001

You Live On 18th Street
Met at The Cafe in March. You're from New York, currently live in San Francisco on 18th Street. You said I was handsome, I was with a date. Can't stop thinking about you. ☎ 71000

Montgomery Muni-Castro, Mon 11-1
4:45pm You: sitting, brown hair, goatee, sublime. Me: tall, dark blond with roommate, couldn't follow you looking back. Ouch! Dinner? ☎ 71021

Butternut Squash
Cala-Thus 11/4. You: handsome WM wearing suit behind my gal-pal and me. We talked about how you were gonna prepare it. I've got some tasty squash recipes to share! ☎ 71066

The Watergarden Sun. Oct 29
You hot buffed Hispanic. I was the Hispanic guy who's room you walked into, #6 you made a certain request and I agreed to it, you stood there trying to aide your request ☎ 71061

Muni #14 11-9 Early Eve
You: shaved head- white t- fatigues. Me: tall bearded, oversized sweatshirts in ears. Thanks for the wink and smile- could there be more? ☎ 71096

Philip At GG Bridge Beach 10/24
Met you a second time at the beach this year but my timing was off again. Beach season's ending. I'd love to hook up. Call me, Lyle. ☎ 71003

Met U On Muni W/Your Dog Sun 11/7
Our meeting got cut short with your stop at Church, I'd love to meet again and do more than just smile. I'm the blonde who asked to pet your dog. ☎ 71022

Tye: 10/30 Halloween
There is a U.S.O. team member hoping to meet up with you again. Next time I promise to wear pants! ☎ 71024

PowerExchange 11/1/99 Steve Mon.
Your first time. Your kisses were deep and hot, we hit the tents. I thought we connected well. I need to see you again. Can't stop thinking of you. Curt. ☎ 71025

Vacaville Outlet Monday 11/1
You: hunky, shaved head with friend. Me: white t-shirt and goatee with brother. I should have said hello in addition to smiling. Now I want to say hello and... ☎ 71026

Big Snack And Faith The Beagle
Met you on Market St. a few months ago, asked if we were brothers, gave us your e-mail, and said we could babysit Faith. No computer, contact us. Will & Steve. ☎ 71027

Someday Before Xmas Last Year
On the Market near the Cafe, you smiled at me. We turned back twice, but just looked at each other. You: big WM, around 6'3" tall. Me: Asian, 5'10" tall. Wanna talk? ☎ 71028

Alma/Cole Valley Sun 10/24 11:30
You: walking down Alma after work-out. Me: driving up Alma in grey rodeo. Exchanged glances. How about coffee? ☎ 71059

Saturday Night, 10/23 BB's
You 38, me 45. You offered ride home; I took taxi instead. You left 10/30 for Philadelphia. Exchanged numbers & intentions; I lost your card. Damn! Please call. Tom. ☎ 71060

Eric At Buddies Sunday Nov 7
I like your great tattoo, you like mine. You where amazing. Let's do it again in bed. Call me! It will be cool. ☎ 71062

Red Dodge Ram Bay Bridge 11-10
Construction Worker? We passed and smiled about 7:30am. Would like to meet for more. Me black Nissan went towards Oakland. ☎ 71063

Alameda, Friday Nov. 12
You gave me your newspaper from your table behind me in the Mex Restaurant. Wanna meet for dinner and eat together? Call me! Mitch ☎ 71064

Hey Ted Its Me Rick
We met Sunday 11-7 at Buddies. Let's continue. Sorry it was a bad night to leave together. Let's fix that... ☎ 71065

Cafe Flore Sat 11/20 MIDDAY
Shared a smile in line for the mens room. You: blonde, white-t shirt, jeans, adorable. Me: black leather jacket, jeans, cap. Would like to meet. ☎ 71097

Gil On Halloween!
We met at the Rainbow and I had a great time, but I didn't get your number! Call me- I won't be "SCARY!" ☎ 71002

Looking For Randal
Sorry I missed you before the move. Lost your phone #. SFO was last contact: SSF or Daly City. Drove you to DMV in East Bay, Steamworks. ☎ 71098

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Virgin Buns

Dancers, Porn Stars and Body-builders for safe sex and possible friendship. GBM, 48, goodlooking, aggressive, strong, ch.50", HIV- love buns and big quarter size nipples. No fats. ☎ 71006

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I love tall, lean or athletic guys with a big, compassionate heart. 28-35. I'm 30, 5'8", athletic- medium build, br/br cute face, spiritual, intellectual, artistic, adventuresome, great kisser, sexy, monogamous. ☎ 71007

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GWM, 39, 5'11", 175, looking for new friends, 35-45 professional, blue eyes, sincere, into outdoors, cooking, cultural events. ☎ 71008

Asian ISO Black

GAM around 40s seeks Black male friend, possibly LTR, no overweigh, please be sincere only. N/S, N/D, no pets. ☎ 71009

Here I Am!

East Bay White male, hung, versatile, 5'8", 158,50's, HIV-, ISO Blacks, Asians, White, HIV-, age/looks not important but please no BS. Be down-to-earth and sincere. ☎ 71010

Wanted Mature Man

WM seeking casual relationship with a clean, trim matured man, late 50s to 60s who enjoys receiving oral service. If interested, call me! Your place, no reciprocation necessary. ☎ 71029

Asian And Black Tops

This GWM 6' 165lbs. would like you to lay down while I suck you deep. When ready- you can fuck me all you can give me. Your sex object. ☎ 71030

Chubby Guy Mst Glasses HIV- 48

Attractive ISO affectionate, stable, committed partner. Be considerate, easy going, sexually versatile, am moderately hairy. Serious only. No drugs. ☎ 71031

Seeking Smooth Cub Trainee

WM bear 48, 5'8", 230lb HIV- looking for loyal cub 25-40, HIV- for regular service. Esp like smooth, quick cummers, ex-Marines, Latins. ☎ 71032

Spank Me

Cute little frat boy 22, blonde hair with a nice smooth chest, gym-body, needs over the knee action from dominant big brother 18-35 only please. China Town. ☎ 71033

Quiet Type

Quiet ISO spirited ISO quiet. Pos, mid-life, trim, varied interests. ☎ 71034

GWM-Pure Heart, Dirty Mind

Desires erotically charged romantic entanglement with adorable charmer. Smart, handsome, talented, hairy-chested HIV+ top, 35, 6'1", 165; juggling healthy pairbond instinct with oversexed imagination. Wanna shatter some rules? ☎ 71035

Looking For A Good Man

Me: 32, 5'11" 180lbs. Gym toned, HIV+ and healthy, ready to have fun again. You: mature, responsible and good top. ☎ 71036

Asian Top Wanted

Heavyset WM bottom, 38, 6'3" 280lbs looking for Asian Pacific Islander top for possible LTR. Likes: reading, classic movies, hand holding. Be romantic and sincere. ☎ 71037

More Treat Than Trick

Cute blonde GWM (6'1", 175#, boyish) seeks romance with handsome thirtysomething guy. Interest and attitudes negotiable. (though books, classical music, the outdoors). ☎ 71038

Good Guy Blues

This cute, warm hearted, nice guy, GWM, mid 30's, into Christmas, carpenters and coffee, seeks a nice guy to love, laugh, play and will invite in for milk and cookies. ☎ 71039

Sonoma County

GWM 6'1", 180# easygoing, versatile, playful & horny. Looking for 35-45 ski buddy & more with many interests N/S, N/D, give a call. ☎ 71067

ISO Outdoors Guy

WM, masc, attrac. 145, 5'7", great shape, negative, sense of humor, 40's; you are similar, very masc, neg, attrac, great shape, stable, kind; for friends, dating. ☎ 71068

Attractive Latino

Goodlooking Latino 5'5", 140# brown eyes, goatee, dark hair, professional looking for GWM between 26-40yo for friendship or more. Like biking, travel, go out dinner, movies, hiking etc. ☎ 71101

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CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐
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Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

Name _____ Daytime Telephone _____
Address _____ Evening Telephone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Slim Gdiking Hip Retired Guy
Mustache, crewcut, 5'9", 150#. In good shape, versatile. seeks similar slim, 50+, facial hair guy. Short, small dick OK. Smoke OK. Safe only! ☎ 71069

Incurable Romantic
Do you enjoy cuddling before the fire? GWM 66, 5'10", 140#, wavy hair; ISO Latin/Asian man for intimacy and social outings. Hayward area. ☎ 71070

Scorpio Boy
35yr German & Irish average guy versatile HIV+ 5'11" 195lbs brn eyes & hair. Smooth body, enjoys walks on beach working out at home. Movies, kissing, cuddling, cooking ns, nd, itd. ☎ 71105

Big Hearted Country Guy Seeks
Spiritual masculine guy to share mountain property 2 hrs. north of S.F. Me: 45, average looks, medium build. You: honest, young at heart, adventurous, open to LTR? ☎ 71071

Healthy HIV+ Cool Latin Guy
I'm 35yrs, 5'8", 158lb, brn skin, good body. ISO boyfriend/lover into acts, music, sports, sex mmu/m. Thin (nice butt) versatile +. No drugs, lite drink ok. Size not important. Latin, White or Italian. Call me. ☎ 71072

GAM Seeks Sincere GWM Over 50
Attractive 50, professional, self employed. 150#, 5'8" looking for GWM 50-65 for friendship. Possible LTR. ☎ 71074

Senior Special
Mid 40's bi WM, 6', 180, 6 1/2" cut. F/A, GP. Redhead seeks over 60 top. North Bay best. ☎ 71075

Nice Guy Seeks Same
Attractive HIV+, 5'8", 140lbs brn/hzl 47, top, quick witted, strong personality enjoy going out & staying @ home, good company and fantastically loyal, seeks partner with total bottom, strong character, passionate, independent and affectionate. ☎ 71076

Handsome Italian
40, 6'2", 185lbs, well-endowed into fitness, travel, romance and fun. times seeks another HIV- Latin man who is honest, romantic and sincere for monogamous relationship. ☎ 71078

Seeking Friendship, LTR
GWM, 35, 6'0", 170, brn hair, HIV-, seeking new friends, for possible LTR. 35-45, professional. Please be sincere. No overweight. Let's have fun. ☎ 71099

Dirty Old Man 4 Buttboy
Senior masculine GWM wants your ass. Seeking masculine/submissive GWM. (For the right guy, I can be a filthy old man). ☎ 71102

Friendship And Sex
Seeking both. Me: 50 BM top. You: 55-60 WM bottom. Let's have dinner, drinks, smoke, conversation and good sex. Please be 5'10" or less. Not thin, no beard and sensitive nips. ☎ 71103

Seeking For A Nice Guy
GAM, 24, 5'9", 175# healthy, cute, funny, easy going but very caring, creative, romantic, likes music and dancing. Seeks GWM about under 35. No overweights please. ☎ 71104

Single In The City Sucks
But not as good as I do! Horny top 30-50 bearded by 40yrs into eager to leave single hood, kind, honest, loving/cabin looking to enjoy together. ☎ 71106

Older 70's GWM Seeks Younger
Under 45, gdl/g man for lots of cuddling, kissing and making intimate moments. In or out of bed, you will enjoy having me as a friend. ☎ 71107

Goodlooking Latin 28
I'm 5'6", 165lbs, stocky, muscular, dark features. I'm seeking Latin or Whites under 40 for friendship or for building a LTR. N/S only. ☎ 71108

Pleasing Buffed Guy Wanted
Outgoing, adventurous, handsome, wheelchair guy, seeks aware, big hearted, buffed, caring guy for relationship or intimate sexual encounters. Be submissive and eager to please. Intelligent and educated. ☎ 71077

Genuinely Nice Guy
GWM, 42, 5'9 1/2", 160lbs, sincere, sensual romantic, sexual, healthy positive, mostly bottom, hairy, sexy, fun. Searching for top, h/wt proportional. Please be emotionally available and down to earth. ☎ 71079

GWM Manbody Boyface 100%Real
Adventurous, affectionate, 6-1", 175#, crewcut, clean shaven, architect, nonsmoker, early riser, own apartment, swimmer, hiker, cook, pices, 33, weekend at romantic B & B or "Thelma And Louise" roundrip. ☎ 71073

EB WM Seeks LM For?
Attractive 35yo WM seeks friendship or more. Like movies, dinner; dancing, cuddling. Be 28-40, not bad to look at and have a sense of humor. Smoker ok. ☎ 71100

Masculine Top Seek Son
GWM, 250#, 5'7", ns, HIV-. Seeks muscular submissive boy/son who is educated, affectionate, funny and stable. ☎ 71109

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Total Anal Bottom Bear
5'10", 195#, GWM, 48. Me: lie on my belly, get my talented asshole fucked long and hard. You: horny, ass fucker top- any age, race. Dildos a plus! ☎ 71011

Exhibitionist
Walking around naked get you stiff? Enjoy showing off? Strutting your stuff? Posing? Being admired, stroked, used? Handsome GWM, 40s, tall and trim, enjoys watching and sketching gay/bi or str8 dudes. Erotic massage optional. ☎ 71012

Black Bottom Seeks Top
Dominant aggressive top a plus, verbal top a plus, raunch, kinky, sleaze, fetish role playing a plus. Some eye & winks. ☎ 71013

Ass/Mind Stretching Top Pigs
Experienced good looking 40's submissive bottom seeks dominance and humiliation by aggressive ploverman. Control my mind and body for your pleasure. WS, Fetish, bad habits A+! ☎ 71015

48 GBM Large Cock
9" to 10" long and 7" round. Big swollen nipples, big muscle ch. 50". Love to fuck nice round ass. Seeking 18-30 HIV-, big swollen nipples, clean hygiene. ☎ 71016

Your Dick In My Mouth
And no teeth (no scraping or scratching). Good looking 64yr, 5'8", 165 GWM seeks masculine GWM. ☎ 71017

Kick Back!
GWM, nice, friendly guy luv to play with and suck cock. Seek straight, bi, gay masculine, in-shape guy. Tell me what you like. Let's have fun. ☎ 71018

Seeking Flexing Bodybuilder
Looking for big muscle into showing it off. Big pex and sensitive nips a plus. Me: 6'2", 190 wellbuilt, lean, handsome, HIV-, discreet. Flex-sex. ☎ 71040

Uncut Boys Who Like Big Dick
In their mouths & buns wanted by handsome uncute type in SF, 40, 6', 180# White, tattoos, 9" cut fat dick, watch porno, feed me your foreskin, bend over or fuck & suck me. ☎ 71041

Master 68 180 Slaveboy 25-45
Must be able to relate to Do. Oregon and have car B/D, S/M, water sports, spanking, smooth hard body pierced nipples a plus, HIV- apply Sir. ☎ 71042

Latin Seeks Bottoms
Sexy-cute European Latin seeks bottoms under 30 for hot times groups ok ☎ 71043

Want Hot Guy For Fun & Friend
GWM, 46, 145, 5'7" in LTR, seeking Asian or Latin, 25-45, for hot daytime fun & friendship. Do you like to kiss, lick, stroke & make passionate love? ☎ 71044

Black Hot Dog/ Hispanic Buns
Penetrating Black topman, 45, enjoys planting his chocolate manhood into a masculine hombre. Olive skin, dark hair, moustache A+. Over 40, husky, skin on skin even better. ☎ 71045

Fuck In The City
34, 5'10" 190lb blond/blue muscle, hunk wants goodlooking masculine men to pump me/ get pumped. Also love to get massaged and jerked off anytime. ☎ 71046

Asian Or Latino Who Seeks
Hot, young, hung, cute, sexy daddy to provide boy toy service to me & my Latino boyfriend. We are hot! ☎ 71047

Fisting Bottom Wanted
Love to suck my dick top and the world is yours guy. Also into w/s, bondage, etc. Have playroom. ☎ 71080

Seeking One W/A Big Butt Part2
Look past the wheel chair and we will have a great freak session! 9 long inches. It stays hard 4 a big ass! Freak ☎ 71081

Headhunter For Chocolate Dream
Seek befy, Black/Brown men. Masculine, discrete, clean, attractive, mature man will service you head to toe. Relax and enjoy. ☎ 71083

Young Seeks Older 55-69 Topman
Life before 55 is just a rehearsal says ex tv commercial model 29, 6', 160#, new in US, with satin smooth silky skin and bubble buns, seeks naughty looking men. ☎ 71084

A1 Oral Service- Delivered
SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. Your place. No reciprocation. HIV- ☎ 71085

Rough & Ready
White guys wanted by Oriental slut. You: 35 & under, blue collar type w/8" plus, for front/rear pussy-banging. Me: 35, 165, 5'9" gdlkg. ☎ 71116

Fuck Buddies Wanted
Handsome Irish guy needs some good buddies to orally service him. 5'11", br/gr/175#, nice uncute 7 1/2. Castro loc. Let's do it! Call. ☎ 71086

Give Me A Good Ride
Well built top/ vers/, hung big is looking for well built men (20-30's), hairy to sit on my face and cock for a good ride. ☎ 71087

Bottom Asian
33, 5'8", 160#, bottom Asian, horny seeks GWM 30-44 to rim my ass, to fuck me hard & deep throat me. ☎ 71110

Let Me Service Your Cock
GWM, 5'11", 175#, HIV-n/s, n/d like ser ice your 7" cock and get fucked and watch video's, any age. No factor or race please call. ☎ 71111

Most Ads Exclude Me
Since I'm 50 and balding, but I enjoy shooting my love gun as much as any kid does. Sincere, masculine, easy to reach men only, please. No indirect #s. ☎ 71112

Fuck Buddy Search
BTM looking for goodlooking GWM top who likes to fuck. UB: Tall with nice cut tool. Condoms only, eyes or winks. I am 5'8", s/p, great smile & eyes. N/d, n/s, aroma ok. ☎ 71113

Over The Knee Spanking
Light, sensual, erotic to heavier with hand, belt, paddle. Novices welcome. Me: attrac, GWM, 46, 6'5", 250#; husky build. You: attrac, GM, (White, Asian, Hispanic), slim, nice buns. Limits respected. ☎ 71114

Rubber
GWM 5'6" 140#, 60 ISO others who like drysuits, rubber, latex or leather for play and friendship. Bound to have fun. LTR desired. ☎ 71115

Uncut Hung 9 Hairc Masc Musc.
GWM 50, 5'9"-160, balding, versatile top seek fit man with great butt, legs, nipple work, light S & M, rough & tender, kiss & cuddle. From east coast-vist SF in Jan. HIV+ ok. I am 15yrs. ☎ 71117

Bad Attitude -- Good Fuck
Hot, masculine, muscular, big-dick Italian top is looking for a hot, masculine, in-shape eager-to-please bottom under 45, any race. ☎ 71118

Muscular For Chub
Looking for dick hungry, big belled guys to service my fat cock and huge nuts, daytime. ☎ 71082

Seeking A Neanderthal
GWM, 37, 5'11", 175, br/br, muscular, handsome seeks an extremely hairy in-shape man 30-50, thick, thick hair all over your body, so I can rub my smooth, muscular body against it. Clean and healthy please. ☎ 71119

Spank Me.. Cute Little Frat Boy
22 needs over the knee discipline from dominant big brother 18-35. Chinatown. ☎ 71120

Hairy Top Stud
Me: 39, 170#, 5'9", buzzcut, stache, muscular hairy chest, 8" cut, poz, aggressive, passionate total top. You: GWM, attractive, under 45, slutty nasty bottomboy, eager to please horny daddy. ☎ 71121

Straight WM 55 Seeks Asian
Masculine divorced bi-curious seeking-hot cream-filled link sausage. Force feed me and shoot your load on my face. ☎ 71122

Muscular WM Seeks Asian For
Rope-bondage, submissive and masochism. I'm 32yo, blonde, deeply masochistic, broad minded and turned-on by Chinese men. Your inexperience is okay. ☎ 71123

FETISHES

ISO Unusual Dicks Of Any Kind!
I service dicks that are unusual. Bent or curved, lge. Piss-hole, mushroom head, f/skin won't retract, x.sml or x.lge, long or tight f/skin. You must be thin/lean! ☎ 71019

Energetic And Eager Guy
Talented mouth and tongue for front and/or rear service to in-shape men. Me: 37, 5'8", 125, 90-l, slim and defined. You: White/Latin, in-shape, 25-50yo. Plissens++ ☎ 71020

Man W/Toe Ring Sks Foot Partner
Lifelong excitement looking at/fantasying about men's barefeet. Masculine, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'9", 140#, tan, moderately hairy, HIV-, loves reciprocation kissing, licking, massaging barefeet, safe J/O. Let's go barefoot! ☎ 71048

Massive Daddy Tits Are Back!
Red hot nips, ballballs, big stache, shaved head on a WM, 50's, good bod, very verbal, kinky, into hot man-sex, hairy bears A+. ☎ 71049

Spanking
Pants down, bare butt discipline for athletic guys who need it. Hand, paddle, strap. Hot top, experienced, safe. ☎ 71050

2 Hung Top Studs Need Asian
Or Latino boy toy or slave to service us. We are early 30's GWM, Latino, slim, hung, healthy horny. Do it to us. ☎ 71051

Bondage Top
Experienced bondage top, 41, 5'8", 155, HIV-, athletic, good looking, seeks submissive, obedient, masculine, in-shape bottom, 21-45, for erotic bondage and play. Safe, discreet, trustworthy. SF/East Bay. ☎ 71052

Boots, Shoes, Sweaty Sneakers,
Feet, toes, cleaned, polished, worshipped! By a thirsty, talented deep throat expert with a respectful attitude. ☎ 71053

Daytime Asshole-Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 71054

2 Studs Need Asian Or Latino
Boy toy to handle all of our needs. Take it in each hole. We are 35/25, 5'10"/5'7" 170/130lb, 8"/10" and hot. ☎ 71055

Cock Sucking Bottom ISO Tops
I'm into bondage, threesomes, pics, videos. I love 7-8-9" or more in my face. Tie me up. Fuck me and pass me around! zip 94501. ☎ 71088

Parched In Sonoma County
Watering hole available for assertive mature man with attitude. Verbal a plus. Me, 42-59yrs-170#, dehydrated. ☎ 71089

Big Man Needs Sex Slave
Slave needed to service me as I see fit. I'm 6', 295lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, 42yrs, HIV+. White guy. My tool is 6.5- Limits respected. ☎ 71090

Daytime-Asshole Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 71126

Leather Dad ISO Boy
Dom WM top, 57, 6', 255, musc, beefy, sane, creative, sadistic, loving ISO fit masc boy for bdsm play & poss. LTR, pref. under 45, kinky, neg, ns. ☎ 71091

Cock Bondage- Erotic Chastity
Pennis confinement, many days without cumming, prolonged sensual arousal. Mutual, friendly, substance-free. Yoga WM, 53, 5'8", 175#, solid, workout, bald, short hair/beard. No action first meeting. ☎ 71092

Big Hungry Nipples
Let a hot man work your meaty nipples with my hands, mouth, pumps and toys. I'm a pig for huge tits and chests. Let's get into hot tit fantasies. ☎ 71093

Family Fun
Looking for videos for real life father/son or brother/brother. Legal age only! Or better yet, to meet in person to watch or join. ☎ 71094

Your Feet In My Face
GBM, 40's seek WM, 35-45, with large feet, long toes to service. Have hot mouth for clean feet. Lay back - I lick- No reciprocation. ☎ 71124

Bootlicking Fetish
Older, generous guy seeks studs to age 40 who will allow him to lick and polish boots. Especially excited by military, police and cowboy attire. ☎ 71125

Santa Bear Leaving A Switch
Commemorate an old holiday tradition. Have you been naughty or nice? Is it better to give than receive? ☎ 71127

Bondage Partner Or More....
SGWM, 43, 5'10", 170, attractive, healthy, fit, into leather, boots, rope, strait jackets, cuffs, hoods and gags- seeks similar for hot bondage play or more. Relationship-oriented. ☎ 71128

COUPLES

Secure Couple Wanted
Stable, secure wanted for 3 way. Ub 30's safe, discreet. I'm 38, slender, top. Brn, grn, crewcut, goatee. Hot, safe fun wanted to spice up life. Regular basis possible. No drugs. ☎ 71095

OTHER

Workout Partner Sought
Just starting out at Gold's; need someone to be motivated with and develop a great bod. ☎ 71056

Underwear Lover Looking 4
Other guys 18-25 with similar interest. Let's get together. ☎ 71057

Victorian Sensibility...
Man likes to be fucked by submissive virile male, younger is okay. Available days. In upper Haight. Specialties & perversities. ☎ 71058

Gay Ski Week At Whistler, BC
I need a ski buddy to share a luxury suite at Whistler (near Vancouver) during Gay Ski Week (2/5/00-2/13/00). Surprisingly affordable! ☎ 71129

Upper Haight Mutual Discipline
I want to trade whipping with another fit, stoic, experienced sm flogging male. Any race, give & take. ☎ 71130

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Out There

◀ page 39

bomb *Meet Joe Black* on the set as *Meet Joe's Crack*. This is vulgar, but no more so than much of what passes for popular culture. We think Pitt should quit his day job and start writing tabloid headlines. But keep the dress, Brad.

Venus fly trap

In a wire service item that got our attention, Reuters reports a Canadian tourist who claims that

his penis was crushed by a faulty toilet seat at a Starbucks restaurant in Chelsea has sued the giant coffee corporation for \$1.5 million.

"Our client, **Edward Skwarek**, was in a seated position on the toilet when he turned to retrieve the toilet paper in back of the seat when the seat shifted, causing his penis to be caught and crushed between the seat and the bowl," said **Richard Robbins**, Skwarek's attorney. Ouch! The suit, filed last month in Manhattan Supreme Court, alleges the coffeehouse was careless in "allowing a defective toilet seat to remain open... causing a hazardous and unsafe condition." It also claims that Skwarek suffered a "crushed penis, **Peyronie's disease**, retrograde ejaculation [cool!] with consequent substantial reduction in sperm count, infertility, severe bruising to his penis and sexual function impairment." (Peyronie's disease, Reuters explains helpfully, causes deviation of the erect penis to one side, which seems to us marketable.) Starbucks spokesperson **Alan Gulick** said Starbucks does not comment on pending litigation, even when it makes a juicy little item.

Capital beauty

Last month when we were in Washington DC, currently home to the giant **Michael Graves**-designed condom sheathing the phallus of the Washington Monument, we got in the spirit of our

nation's capital and ran around like Roman senators in heat. We went to art museums. Lesbian artist **Agnes Martin** almost steals the show *Regarding Beauty* at the Hirshhorn Museum, with her pencil-line landscapes. Almost, but not quite: upstaging nearly all else is **Pipilotti Rist's** now-famous video of the artist striding down a city street cheerfully smashing in car windows with an iron rod in the shape of a flower. The show also includes haunting drawings of seascapes from **Vija Celmins**, **Andy Warhol's Triple Elvis**, more sports/Vaseline fetish items from **Matthew Barney**, and lots of other purty stuff. All this makes the Hirshhorn, where the permanent collection is cozily reinstalled for its 25th birthday, worth a stop on anyone's Art Tour.

What a week it's been! Call us sentimental, but the "Dance of the Hershey's Kisses" at the *Dance-Along Nutcracker* last week (queens in mylar costumes zooming by on rolling chairs) warmed the cockles of even this Scrooge's heart. Showgirl **Trauma Flintstone's** festive rendition of "I'll Be Spending Chanuka in Santa Monica" could not have been more timely. And were we proud of our bud **Pepl**, who was part of the biggest riot party of the year in no-longer-mellow Seattle! Even if he had rather a lech-on for the **black-clad messengers**, the **Pepl** braved the tear gas and **Darth Vader** cops to do his part in helping to "End corporate rule!" ▼

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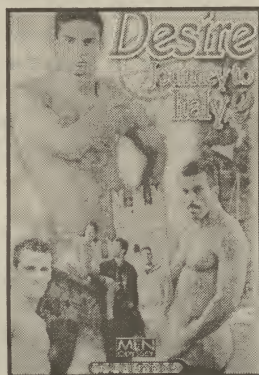
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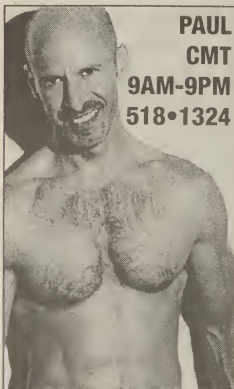
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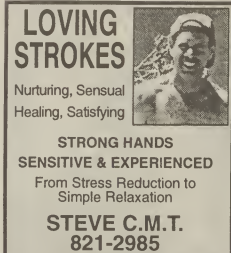
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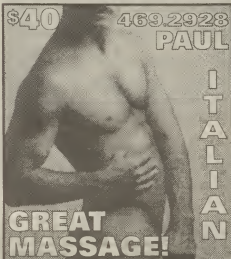


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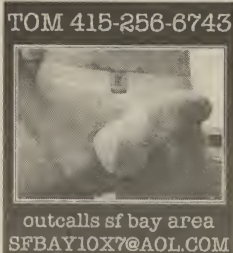
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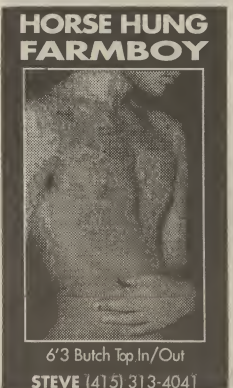


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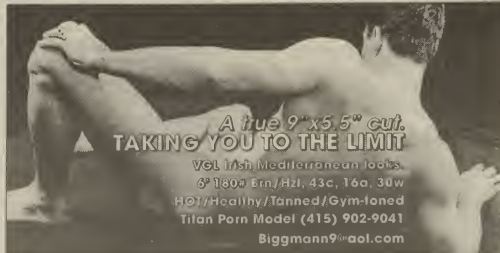
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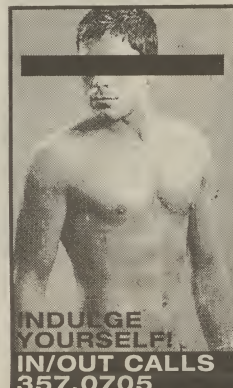
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Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

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